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Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE,

(BY CABLE).

London, 30th December, 1921.

129s./- per cwt. Market Firm.

[NOTE BY ED. P. C.—By an oversight, last week's cable was omitted from this page. It was identical with the above, no change having taken place now since 24th December, 1921.]

## THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

Mr. Waddington's letter in our issue of 17th December last, and his full report supplementing it in this issue, will not have passed unnoticed by planters in Southern India. In fact, this question puts in the shade for the moment all others with which we have recently been occupied, and our object in touching on it here when already so many pages of this week's Chronicle are occupied by the report, is to emphasise that importance, as



well as to consider one or two points arising out of the report and out of the Conference in general.

In judging the results of the Conference we have got to look upon Industrial India as a whole, and not run away with the idea that our planting industries, organised agricultural industries as they have been called, are the only or main pebble on the beach. On the contrary, the number of workers employed in them do not amount to more than 3% or 4% of the agricultural workers in India. Agriculture, of course, is the chief industry of India, and this fact appears to have overshadowed in most people's minds the point that in other directions India is also of great importance, in fact it may be said that India's industrial importance is not at all properly realised, even by ourselves who live and have our being within the confines of her shores. This failure to realise her importance seems partly to arise out of the idea which has gained currency that India is merely a producer of raw materials, supplied to other countries for use in their industries, and it is forgotten that, although we may agree that she is proportionately backward industrially, her enormous size, and the tremendous extent of her working population place her, even in her proportionately backward condition, ahead of some of those States alluded to by the organizing Committee as of "chief industrial importance."

In the statistics of employment for instance we find that India easily heads the list with over 100 million occupied males, and of these, over 71 millions are said to be engaged in agriculture. Workers in Industries, Mining and Transport show a total of over 20 millions, so that it is not difficult to judge that India is more important industrially than say, Italy, or Belgium. In fact, statistics show that in agriculture, in industrial workers—using a narrow sense of the term—in mineral production, in transport and in the textile industries, India's superiority is undoubted.

Turning now to the Conference and its conventions and recommendations, we have to start with the foreknowledge that the primary object of the International Labour Organisation is the improvement and levelling up of the conditions of life of workers throughout the world. Broadly speaking, the Conference dealt with the now familiar questions concerning unemployment, protection of women and children, housing and compensation. Mr. Waddington says the tendency of the Employers' and Workers' Groups was towards the formation of antagonistic camps, which is greatly to be deplored however natural it may be. It is this sort of thing, and the argument so often brought forward that recommendations of the kind indicated are not suitable to the peculiar conditions of India, which make for discontent. True, the Washington Conference agreed in 1919 that the time has not yet arrived when regulations applicable in Europe and in other non-Asiatic countries can be introduced into India without modification, but there can be no shadow of doubt that employers of labour and the workers themselves ought, as Mr. Waddington says, to be brought more together. If this were done employers would be less prone to press for exemption in their individual case, and would come to realise better that these conventions and recommendations of the League are at least principles which, if they cannot for obvious reasons be accepted *in toto*, are a basis from which considerable advancement might be made, and which would be acceptable to us all.



## THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

## REPORT No. 31.

1. RUBBER IN THE SEYCHELLES.—The export of rubber from the Seychelles during 1920 was 24,040 lbs., as against 30,000 lbs. the previous year. The cost of production was 67 cents per lb., and the slump caused tapping to be stopped during 1921. Hevea is said to grow well on the alluvial soils of the island, but these are mostly occupied by cocoanut plantations, and most of the rubber is relegated to poor soils on hill sides, where it grows slowly and is expensive to harvest. Many of the estates are now ten years old, and are expected to pay as the yield increases and if prices improve.

2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS.—At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, dry weather conditions continued during the week, and harvest was proceeded with, 2,595½ lbs. of ripe cherry being picked from 4¾ acres. Of the plots sprayed for leaf disease that treated with one per cent Bordeaux Mixture appears to have received more protection than the one sprayed with half per cent Bordeaux.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, fine weather was experienced during the week, with cold nights. 439 lbs of green leaf were plucked from 4.74 acres, and tipping was done on two of the plots pruned last September. Work on the swamp has been finished for the present, and it has been sown with *Daincha* and *Tephrosia candida*.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, hot dry weather was experienced, with no rain. Daily tapping was done on 1,346 trees, and a yield of 122 lbs. of wet sheet and 24 lbs. of wet scrap obtained, a yield of 0.108 lb. per tree as compared with 0.107 lb last week. Some special tapping experiments are being carried out for the Rubber Mycologist, who left the Station on 23rd. The trees are rapidly wintering, and tapping will be stopped at the end of the month.

As the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, no rain fell during the week, and hot weather prevailed. The trees are beginning to winter, and on this Station also tapping will cease at the end of the month. During the week daily tapping was done on 391 trees, and a crop of 55.75 lbs. of wet sheet and 6.40 lbs. of wet scrap obtained, a yield of 0.159 lb. per tree, the same as last week. The average rubber content of the latex has fallen to two lbs. per gallon.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



**CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE  
HOSPITAL, PEERMADE, ON THURSDAY THE 15TH DECEMBER,  
1921, AT 10 A. M. TO MEET THE LABOUR COMMISSION,  
CONSISTING OF MESSRS. J. S. NICOLLS,  
W. A. LEE, AND E. LORD.

PRESENT,—Messrs. E. C. Sylvester (Chairman), H. Clark, R. C. Elers,  
G. P. Farley, W. E. Forbes, G. S. N. Ford, J. F. Fraser,  
R. E. Haslam, A. V. Mawer, C. Patterson, C. S. N. Ricketts,  
R. Tait, H. V. Tringham, R. F. Vinen, J. Wedderspoon, H. C.  
Westaway, J. M. Wilkie, and A. R. St. George (Honorary  
Secretary.)

Visitors :—Mr. A. H. Mead and Dr. H. McCormack.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

Before proceeding with the business of the Meeting the Chairman referred to the death of Mr. McArthur, and the loss sustained to the District and the Association, and asked members to pass a vote of sympathy with his wife, family and relatives. This was passed, all members standing.

1. Mr. J. S. Nicolls, on behalf of the Commission, expressed his pleasure at seeing so many members present. He then asked each member if he wished to amplify any statements made in answer to the questionnaire circularised. Several members accordingly did so.

2. Several members were then interrogated privately by the Commission.

(Signed) E. C. SYLVESTER,  
Chairman.

( „ ) A. R. ST GEORGE,  
Honorary Secretary.

**AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.**

In the course of a paper read on this subject before the agricultural section of the British Association at Edinburgh the author, Sir Henry Rew, said that it was unnecessary to place before the section of the British Association, which is specially concerned in the advancement of agriculture, arguments to prove that statistical information lies at the base of agricultural progress under modern conditions. It is quite true that improvements in farm practice and in farm live stock were made long before any systematic attempt was made to provide statistics of agriculture, and that scientific enquiry into the processes of nature in relation to soils, crops, and animals, is not dependent on statistical data. It is, however, also true that the farmer, the stock breeder, and the scientist, are all limited in their outlook unless they know the magnitude and scope of the problems on which they are engaged.



All economic statistics have two primary objects, one general and one specific. The general object is to provide information for the Government for publicists and economists of the extent and progress of that section of national activity to which the statistics relate, and the specific object is to provide information for persons who are themselves engaged in the enterprise recorded. In the case of agriculture, it is evidently important that full statistical information should be available for the Government and the public, and it is equally important that farmers and stockbreeders should be provided with it—although it must be admitted that they do not all appreciate or use it.

If one had a free hand and unlimited resources, it would be pleasant to construct a complete and logical scheme of statistics to provide all the information which it would be desirable or interesting to obtain. Such a scheme would be devised to show :—

The extent of land used, with details of its utilisation.

The capital value of the land, and its rent and tenure.

The amount of capital—fixed and moveable—employed.

The amount of labour—manual, animal, and mechanical—employed.

The number of individuals providing the capital, management, and labour respectively.

These particulars would give the factors of production fairly completely, and we should then want particulars of the output :—

Weight and value of crops and animals produced and marketed.

Weight and value of meat produced.

Quantity and value of other produce—*e. g.*, milk, cheese, butter, cider, honey, etc.—produced and marketed.

Having obtained a complete account of the output in gross and detail of agricultural land, it would still remain to get further particulars of its distribution and realisation, including statistics of supplies at markets, and of the course of prices.

It is unnecessary to remark that the scheme thus outlined is a counsel of perfection, and that in a world which is imperfectly organised and disciplined from the statistician's point of view, the ideal is never likely to be fully attained.

The proposition that statistics are useful commands general assent at the present time. The old popular belief that official statistics were mainly intended to provide more or less amusing occupation for officials, and to furnish opportunities for elaborate perversions of the truth, has been in some degree weakened by the war. There is now, in fact, a popular demand for statistical information of all kinds, and the demand as usual produces the supply. If the information does not in fact exist—as is frequently the case—it is forthcoming nevertheless from the fertile brain



of an up-to-date journalist. Even in ordinary conversation one is constantly confronted with statistical "facts," in relation to subjects on which no statistics exist.

In this really lies the best reply to the question: "What is the use of Agricultural Statistics?" They are of vital importance to the producer. His whole business depends on information of the present and prospective supplies of the products which he has to sell. If that information is not obtained independently and completely, the enterprise of traders will furnish statements as to the supplies available which will not be compiled in the interests of producers, but which there will be no means of checking or contradicting. Similarly, the trader who is daily in the markets must necessarily have a wider knowledge of current prices than the producer who attends only one market occasionally. An independent record of market prices must, therefore, be advantageous to the producer.

Broadly, therefore, the main use of agricultural statistics is to supply as far as is humanly possible, facts, and thus to prevent the promulgation of statements which are inaccurate and interested.

To the administrator, the economist, and the sociologist, statistics of the use of land and the distribution of its products are indispensable to any intelligent survey of the economic life of the nation. Agriculture may no longer be the predominant factor in the national life, but it can never cease to have an overpowering significance in relation to the health and wealth of the people, and full records of its varied activities are essential to its maintenance and development.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

### International Labour Conference.

THIRD SESSION—GENEVA—25TH OCTOBER TO 19TH NOVEMBER, 1921.

As promised in my preliminary report, dated 22nd November, on the Conventions and Recommendations, passed at the above Conference, I propose now to give fuller details in respect to questions in which planters are interested, regarding the reports made by the International Labour Office, prior to, and the discussions at, the Conference and in Committees.

The International Labour Organisation now comprises 54 Nations: Russia and the United States are the only two Great States taking no part.

Thirty-nine Nations were represented at Geneva, the absentees being Hedjaz, Liberia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Persia, and ten of the Central and South American Nations.

Delegates consist of three groups, comprising those of the Governments, the Employers and the Workers.

The Indian Delegates were :—

For Government,—Mr. A. C. Chatterjee, Secretary to Government of India, Department of Industries.



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Mr. J. N. Gupta, Officiating Commissioner, Burdwan Division, Bengal.

With four technical advisers.

For Employers,—Mr. N. B. Saklatvala, of Messrs. Tata & Sons, nominated by the Mill Owners' Association of Bombay.

With four technical advisers, including Mr. A. U. Crowe of the Indian Tea Association and myself.

For the Workers,—Mr. N. M. Joshi, M. L. A. Servants of India Society.

With Mr. B. P. Wadia, President, Madras Labour Union, as adviser.

The Agenda of the Meeting included certain Industrial, Commercial and Maritime items, but chiefly dealt with Agricultural questions. Nevertheless, I believe, only one of the Workers' delegates had actual personal experience of agriculture, although there were some advisers who were practical agriculturists. It was impossible to divest oneself of the feeling that we were an assembly of industrial ladies and gentlemen trying to deal with agricultural subjects.

It must not be overlooked that whereas in Industry the worker is more or less of one class and entirely dependent on employment, labour in agriculture is much more complicated, consisting as it does of the worker entirely dependent on wage earning, the small farmer who in addition to cultivation of his own land at times works for others, the small farmer who works his land with the assistance of his family, produce sharing employees and urban population who work at the time of harvest.

The natural tendency of the Employers' and Workers' Groups to form antagonistic camps was unfortunately very pronounced. The Workers acknowledged they had come to an agreement to vote "solidly." In practice, the Employers followed the same procedure, any proposal coming from the Workers being immediately considered by the Employers with a view to defeating or whittling the same down. The difficulty of languages made it impossible to get into close touch on questions one would have liked to discuss personally. Until Governments can bring the Employers and the Workers more together, much of the usefulness of the Conferences must be lost, and it seems to me it would be better if, before delegates leave their countries, they could be brought together and decide as far as possible on a common standpoint to present to delegates of other nations at the Conference.

It is understood, and has been acknowledged at the Washington Conference of 1919, that the time has not yet arrived when regulations applicable to conditions in Europe can be introduced literally and without adjustment into India; but something more than the mere principle of the recommendations made by the International Labour Office might well be accepted by us.



There was considerable truth in the complaint made that delegates, after relating a whole series of beneficent measures prevailing in their own countries and which carried out the ideas of the proposed Conventions, nevertheless voted against them.

In the following notes, I have tried to show what is the trend of public opinion ; and to save trouble of reference to my first report, I again give the actual Conventions and Recommendations passed at the Conference.

#### MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION OF OR PROVIDING AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Conference made the following *Recommendation*:—

That each member of the International Labour Organisation should consider measures for the prevention of or providing against unemployment amongst agricultural workers suitable to the economic and agricultural conditions of its country, and that it should examine particularly from this point of view the advisability :—

- (1) of adopting modern technical methods to bring into cultivation land which is at present not worked or only partially developed, but which could by such means be made to yield an adequate return;
- (2) or encouraging the adoption of improved systems of cultivation and the more intensive use of the land ;
- (3) of providing facilities for settlement on the land;
- (4) of taking steps, rendering work of a temporary nature accessible to unemployed agricultural workers by means of transport facilities;
- (5) of developing industries and supplementary forms of employment which would provide occupation for agricultural workers who suffer from seasonal unemployment, provided steps be taken to ensure that such work is carried on under equitable conditions ;
- (6) of taking steps to encourage the creation of agricultural workers' co-operative societies for the working and purchase or rearing of land; and of taking steps to this end to increase agricultural associations of land workers established for the purpose of agricultural production.

There seems to be a consensus of opinion that Agriculture suffers from a constant lack of sufficient supplies of efficient workers throughout the world, with the exception of the Provinces of Slovakia and Ruthenia in Czecho-Slovakia. Those countries, in which there is no very pronounced winter, report that unemployment in Agriculture does not exist. In non-tropical countries there is what may be called seasonal unemployment during the winter

As regards India, the Secretary of State in the course of his report writes :—"The demand for industrial labour has for long exceeded the sup-



ply, and the unemployment of agricultural labour is unknown in ordinary seasons." This might at first appear difficult to reconcile with the fact that recruiters take away large numbers to Ceylon, Malaya, Fiji, Guiana, etc., but that fact really only proves, that although there may be no actual unemployment, there are many who can better their condition by emigrating.

The Washington Conference, 1919, invited the different States to prohibit the establishment of employment agencies which charge fees or which carry on their business for profit.

Some nations have established employment exchanges to deal with the recruitment and placing of labour in Agriculture, chiefly in connection with the harvest. Formerly, France, Germany and Austria had the best organisations for this purpose, but during and, more particularly, since the war, other Nations have undertaken similar work, so that Canada, Great Britain, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States all now have well developed organizations, although it is acknowledged, as regards Great Britain, that agricultural workers make comparatively little use of the Labour Exchanges.

Although hitherto the Government of India have thought it unnecessary to establish employment agencies, they now have under consideration the creation of public employment agencies to encourage the migration of agricultural labour from certain congested areas.

The Geneva Conference made no recommendation as regards unemployment insurance. The only country which has introduced compulsory insurance against involuntary unemployment in Agriculture is Italy, and so far it does not appear to have worked satisfactorily.

#### PROTECTION OF WOMEN BEFORE AND AFTER CHILD-BIRTH.

The Conference made the following *Recommendation* :—

That each member of the International Labour Organization take measures to ensure to women wage-earners employed in Agricultural undertakings protection before and after child-birth similar to that provided by the Draft Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference at Washington for women employed in industry and commerce, and that such measures should include the right to a period of absence from work before and after child-birth and to a grant of benefit during the said period, provided either out of public funds or by means of a system of insurance.

The Washington Convention of 1919, applicable to women employed in Industry and Commerce, prohibited the employment of women for six weeks following child-birth and gave the right of a longer period in case of illness resulting from pregnancy or confinement; also, the right to leave work six weeks prior to confinement on production of a medical certificate; granted free attendance by a doctor or midwife, and full and healthy maintenance of herself and child during these periods; such benefits to be provided out of public funds or by a system of insurance.

The Convention, so far, has only been ratified by Greece and Roumania. In the case of certain Governments which have adopted, or



contemplate the introduction of, insurance schemes which include maternity insurance, the granting of benefits in the particular form laid down by the Washington Convention has been found to cut across their general schemes, or to entail too great a financial burden.

Only two (France and Chile) of the 20 Governments who furnished replies to the questionnaire issued by the International Labour Office, appear to be unconditionally favourable to the extension of the Washington Convention to Agriculture. The majority of the Governments are of opinion that protection should only apply to *regular* wage earners in agriculture, and that no difference should be made between undertakings employing only a few women and those employing large numbers.

Prohibition of employment without compensation was ruled out at Washington, the Convention was framed on condition that there should be a maternity benefit carrying full and healthy maintenance for mother and child.

Although religious and social customs exercise some influence in India in the obtaining of a period of rest after confinement, the Government of India are of opinion that pecuniary circumstances are the terminating factor as regards length of absence from work, and that among the lower castes the period of abstention seldom exceeds a fortnight. They are also of opinion that the time has not yet arrived for the adoption, in India, of a compulsory benefit scheme. But although they do not see their way, at present, to introduce legislation to enforce the recommendations of the International Labour Conference, they are not unsympathetic with the principles advocated, and have recently introduced the following rule as regards their own women employees :—

“ A competent authority may grant to a female Government Servant  
 “ maternity leave on full pay for a period which may extend up  
 “ to the end of three months from the date of its commencement  
 “ or to the end of six weeks from the date of confinement, which  
 “ ever may be earlier.”

At Geneva, in Committee, proposals :—(1) That all the regulations contained in the Washington Convention as regards Industry and Commerce should be made applicable to workers in Agriculture : and (2) That the recommendation should be confined to women wage earners *regularly* employed in agriculture, were both rejected ; and the Recommendation, quoted at commencement, was carried in General Meeting by 65 votes for and 14 against. The Government and Employers' delegates from India abstaining from voting.

#### NIGHT WORK OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE.

The Conference made the following *Recommendation* :—

That each member of the International Labour Organization take steps to regulate the employment of women wage earners in agricultural undertakings during the night in such a way as to ensure to them a period of rest compatible with their physical necessities and consisting of not less than nine hours, which shall, when possible, be consecutive.



The Washington Convention, on this subject, provided that women shall not be employed in Industry during eleven consecutive hours, including those between 10 p. m. and 5 a. m. Twenty-one Nations have either ratified this Convention, or are taking steps to introduce legislation on the lines proposed.

The chief difficulties cited against the adaptation of the Washington Convention to Agriculture were in regard to milking, tending of animals, sericulture, the saffron, olive and grape harvests in Spain, the packing of fruit and vegetables in Japan, where it is the custom to rest during the torrid heat of the day, Northern Sweden where, owing to custom, such work as hay-making is performed on light nights, and hot midday hours are used for rest, Finland where, by reason of heat and flies, day work is more trying than night work.

The draft recommendation, submitted by the International Labour Office, provided for a rest of not less than nine consecutive hours, an amendment to insert "ten" instead of "nine" was defeated, and the recommendation above was carried by 90 votes to 4.

#### NIGHT WORK OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN AGRICULTURE.

The Conference made the following *Recommendations* :—

That the members of the International Labour Organization take steps to regulate the employment of children under the age of fourteen years in agricultural undertakings during the night in such a way as to ensure to them a period of rest compatible with their physical necessities, and consisting of not less than ten consecutive hours.

That the members of the International Labour Organization take steps to regulate the employment of young persons between the ages of 14 and 18 years in agricultural undertakings during the night, in such a way as to ensure to them a period of rest compatible with their physical necessities and consisting of not less than nine consecutive hours.

The original draft, proposed by the International Labour Office, grouped children and young persons, under the age of 18, together, and proposed to secure them a period of rest consisting of not less than nine consecutive hours. In Committee this was broken up into the two distinct recommendations quoted above. In the General Meeting of the Conference they were however put up for vote together and carried by 82 votes to 5.

The first Recommendation might well have been carried unanimously, as was the case in Committee. The second, it is difficult to regard as more than a pious platitude, or that it will be appreciated by the young persons, between the ages of 16 and 18, concerned.

#### ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE.

The Conference passed the following *Convention* ;—

Article 1.—Children under the age of fourteen years may not be employed or work in any public or private agricultural undertaking, or in any branch thereof, save outside the hours fixed for school attendance. If they are employed outside the hours of school attendance, the employment shall not be such as to prejudice their attendance at school.

Other articles provided that the hours of school attendance might be arranged to permit of light work by children during harvest, provided the total annual school attendance is not reduced to less than 3 months; that the provisions of Article 1 do not apply



to technical schools and that Nations ratifying the Convention bring the provisions into operation not later than 1st January 1924.

By the Convention passed at Washington, 1919, the employment of children under the age of 14 was prohibited in Industrial undertakings, with the exceptions, that the minimum age in India should be 12, and the same in Japan, if, there, the children had finished the course of elementary school.

Great Britain, Greece, Roumania and Czecho-Slovakia have ratified this Convention. Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Luxemburg, Poland, Spain, and Switzerland have taken steps towards ratification.

Italy and Roumania are the only countries which appear to advocate the application to Agriculture of the Washington Convention. Although not always so definitely expressed, the general opinion of Nations would seem to be that of France and Switzerland who wrote:—

“Agricultural labour is not comparable with industrial labour; the former is rather a healthy sport, graduated according to the strength of the child,”

and

“It is preferable that they (*i. e.* the children) should be allowed in the fields than that they should wander without supervision while their parents are tied by their occupation.”

There was unanimity of all Nations that agricultural employment of children must not be allowed to interfere with their education and attendance at schools. The Convention was carried by 85 votes to 1.

#### TECHNICAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

The Conference made the following *Recommendation* :—

That each member of the International Labour Organization endeavours to develop vocational agricultural education, and in particular to make such education available to agricultural wage-earners on the same conditions as to other persons engaged in agriculture.

I have no special information to give you on this subject.

#### LIVING-IN CONDITIONS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

The Conference made the following *Recommendations* :—

- I. That each member of the International Labour Organization which has not already done so, take statutory or other measures to regulate the living-in conditions of agricultural workers, taking account of the special climatic or other conditions affecting agricultural work in its country, and after consultation with the employers' and workers' organizations concerned, if such organizations exist.
- II. That such measures shall apply to all accommodation provided by employers for housing their workers either individually, or in groups or with their families, whether the accommodation is provided in the houses of such employers or in buildings placed by them at the workers' disposal.
- III. That such measures shall contain the following provisions :—
  - (a) Unless climatic conditions render heating superfluous, the accommodation intended for workers' families, groups of workers or individual workers, should contain rooms that can be heated.



(b) Accommodation intended for groups of workers shall provide a separate bed for each worker, shall afford facilities for insuring personal cleanliness; and shall provide for the separation of the sexes. In the case of families, adequate provision shall be made for the children.

(c) Stables, cowhouses and open sheds should not be used for sleeping quarters.

The question of housing accommodation on Estates was one on which I felt the least well posted of the various matters to be discussed at the Conference.

Sections 15, 16 and 17 of Act I of 1903 are, as far as I know, the only Government regulations, in India, dealing with the matter, and no rules under the Act were ever promulgated regarding cooly lines and accommodation. Enquiries made by me of the Indian Tea Association and the Ceylon Planters' Association in London, showed that they had no information regarding such questions as cubical air space, and neither in Northern India, nor in Ceylon do such regulations appear to be in force.

It is admitted, that in many agricultural countries, the sanitary and living-in conditions of workers is deplorable.

In Great Britain the Sanitary authorities have power of inspection of buildings used for the housing of such workers. Germany and Austria appear to have made most progress in this direction, their regulations providing that, in addition to the houses used for accommodating workers, being satisfactory (having regard to the number of children and separation of the sexes,) from sanitary and moral points of view they should be provided with heating apparatus, should be able to be locked, and furnished with separate beds, mattresses, pillows and blankets, chairs, tables, locked cupboard and washing appliances. In Denmark, under an agreement between Employers and the Trade Union of Land Workers, a worker with a family must be given two rooms in addition to a kitchen provided with a range, a larder and other usual offices, and it is specially provided he shall be supplied with clean sheets once a month and clean towel once a week.

Finland, Italy (with pillow and bed clothes), Netherlands, Norway, Spain (with simple furniture), Chile (with mattress and washing basin) and Czecho-Slovakia all lay down that separate beds must be provided.

As regards air space, this, in terms of cubic metres, is placed by Austria at 10, by Chile at 12, by Sweden at 10 to 20, by Spain at 20 and by Czecho-Slovakia at 2 (probably a misprint for 20.)

On the Agenda, and in all papers connected with the Conference, this question was always referred to under the heading of "Living-in." In England this expression is used specially to cover cases of living in the Home and eating at the table of the employer, and is quite distinct from the matter of Housing conditions of workers.



The confusion between these two ideas, gave rise to considerable difficulty, both in the open Conference and in Committee. The British workman resents any interference with his domestic arrangements, and in Denmark, it is asked that "living-in" conditions of workers, not residing in the house of their employers should, as far as possible, be determined by their own free will.

Canada is of opinion that the matter of living-in conditions is one for education rather than legislation at present.

The Recommendation was carried by 74 votes to 12. The Indian Government and Employers' delegates abstained from voting.

#### RIGHT OF ASSOCIATION AND COMBINATION.

The Conference passed the following *Convention*.—

Article I.—Each member of the International Labour Organization which ratifies this convention undertakes to secure to all those engaged in agriculture the same rights of Association and combination as to industrial workers, and to repeal any statutory or other provision restricting such rights in the case of those engaged in agriculture.

This, I think, calls for no special explanation, and was carried by 92 votes to 5. My memory does not serve me, and I cannot trace from my papers, why it was opposed by delegates from South Africa, Australia and Canada.

#### PROTECTION AGAINST ACCIDENT, SICKNESS, INVALIDITY AND OLD AGE,

The Conference passed the following *Convention*.—

Article 1.—Each member of the International Labour Organization which ratifies this convention undertakes to extend to all agricultural wage-earners its laws and regulations which provide for the compensation of workers for personal injury by accident arising out of, or in the course of their employment.

And the following *Recommendation* :—

That the General Conference of the International Labour Organization recommends that each member of the International Labour Organization extend its laws and regulations establishing systems of insurance against sickness, invalidity, old age and other similar social risks to agricultural wage-earners, on conditions equivalent to those prevailing in the case of workers in industrial and commercial occupations.

The chief object of the Geneva Conference was to bring about equality of treatment as regards Agricultural and Industrial wage earners. The majority of, if not all, Nations were in agreement that the exclusion in a number of cases of agricultural workers from the benefits of social insurance laws does not appear to be justifiable, and is only due to financial and administrative difficulties.



Although the Convention and Recommendation, at the moment, are inapplicable to India, nevertheless the consideration of the matter by the International Labour Office has caused the Government of India to take into consideration the possibility and advisability of the introduction of legislation regarding Employers' liability, and we are likely to see the same in the near future.

The phrase "Similar social risks" calls for some explanation. The intention is that, when a country contemplates, or has already incorporated in its legislation for industrial workers, insurance against various social risks, such insurance shall be extended to agricultural workers. For example, there exists, in some countries, forms of insurance against Death, Large families, Blindness, Orphanage, Loss of Tools, Funeral expenses, and so on.

The Convention was carried by 81 to 13, all Indian delegates abstaining from voting; and the Recommendation by 84 against 2, the Indian Government and Employers' delegates abstaining.

#### REGULATION OF THE HOURS OF WORK IN AGRICULTURE.

Great disappointment was expressed by the workers group of delegates when the item dealing with this question was, on the motion of France supported by Switzerland, withdrawn from the Agenda, and a resolution was carried by 73 to 18 votes that it should be included in the Agenda of the next meeting.

#### INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

At Washington in 1919, the employers took steps to form an International Association of Industrial Employers; this was confirmed and finally established at Geneva. The purpose of the Association is the furnishing of their members with information regarding labour movements, and early advice as to the probable activities of the International Labour Office. At Geneva they invited the Agricultural employers to join their Association, or offered to assist, in any way they could, if we preferred to form a distinct and separate Association, as the maritime employers had done at Genoa in connection with maritime matters. A Committee of eight, consisting of employers from Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Great Britain, Germany, Holland, Italy and South Africa, was formed to go into the matter and report. This report had not been received up to the time of our leaving.

#### PERSONAL.

The thanks of our Association are due to Mr. Saklatvala, who represented our interests, as the employers' delegate. He was most assiduous in seeking our views, and always ready, in General Conference or in Committee, to voice our opinions, and to obtain a hearing for us if we considered it necessary to speak on any question. Personally, I am much indebted to Mr. Crowe for the assistance he gave me during the time I was in Geneva.

H. WADDINGTON.



## WHAT THE SCIENTISTS ARE DOING ?

The last time we wrote under this heading we had not received from the Director of Agriculture a copy of the Rubber Mycologist's report for October, 1921. This has since come to hand, but for various reasons has been held over. We will deal with it now in anticipation of receiving, next week the reports for November of both Mr. Ashplant and Mr. Anstead which, when dealt with, will give some continuity to these articles.

The Mycologist in October was busy preparing for the R. G. A. Meeting at Cochin towards the end of that month, and the fruits of this labour have already appeared in these pages. Apart from that he reports that, as the monsoon was nearly at an end, he occupied the few remaining days of the wet weather in constructing and testing the practicability of a rain shield for the Para Rubber Tree. Owing to the sodden condition of the tapping surface during the monsoon, stripe canker is alarmingly prevalent, and does much damage. The loss of crop by rain also assumes serious proportions. These are Mr. Ashplant's own words, and out of the experience gained in our less regenerate days when we planted rubber we can confirm all he says. Particularly regarding the loss in crop. In Mundakayam we remember various devices were tried at times, and the most popular of these was a sort of apron shield made of tarred mull. This was tied round the tree at the top end, the bottom end being left loose. It was lifted and hitched to a small nail when tapping operations were in progress, and lowered immediately afterwards, or at first sign of rain. It was not, we believe an unmixed success, and it always occurred to us that underneath this waterproof apron we were placing at the disposal of the stripe canker fungus just that nice damp, warm and dark funk hole into which his tribe-love to crawl, there to carry on their nefarious practices.

Let us hope Mr. Ashplant will be more successful. No one will wish to disagree with him when he says that could a suitable arrangement be devised for keeping the tapping cut dry, it would be possible not only to prevent stripe canker, but also to add some 25 or 30 lbs. per acre to the output of all South Indian Estates, this being the amount lost annually by rain during the monsoon.

Continuing the Mycologist says :—

"The mechanical difficulties in the way of getting a device which will fit the various contours of rubber trees of all ages, and at the same time be perfectly leak-proof are very great, but I have, after numerous trials, succeeded in constructing a shield which overcomes these difficulties, and is adjustable to any size or shape of tree. The remaining difficulty is the cost, for, unless an efficient and fairly permanent shield can be constructed for from 2 to 3 annas, it will, I fear, not be taken up. None of the materials tried so far have been found sufficiently cheap for the purpose, and I am now endeavouring to make some rain-proof material locally."

Rubber planters all over S. India will watch with interest this experiment of Mr. Ashplant's. The loss of crop by rain is another of those arguments in favour of preferential treatment for this country in the matter of output restrictions since, if Mr. Ashplant's estimate is correct, we have in it an involuntary reduction of output amounting to 10% on a yield of 300 lbs. per acre. We do not suppose Malaya ever loses a whole day's crop from this factor, such as happens in India as many as 10 days yearly, not to mention the constant partial loss from sudden showers.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

**Home Coffee Prospects.**

Sir,—A few crops have been sold forward @ 100s. c. f. i., and up to 101s. for 10 tons of good Coorg. Buyers are not inclined to deal for large quantities, as there is no continental buying. It looks as if prices for early shipments will be very good.

There is a great demand from the Home Trade for fine coffee, and the early shipments of Costa Rica lately to hand have realized extraordinary prices, up to 167/ for Bold and 171/ for P. B.

It may be safely expected that Indian Coffee will obtain very full values.

It should be noted that coffee sold c. f. i. is at nett shipping weights, without deductions for discount or for tare and draft. Dock charges are also saved. The draft is usually taken as 2lbs. per bag: the average tare is  $\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

Tare and draft charges average about three shillings per cwt., and dock charges about two shillings per cwt: hence, 100s. c. f. i. is equal to 105/ at auction.

Shipping and insurance charges, in the past season, from the West Coast came to 4s. 4d. per cwt. Hence, the difference between the gross and net price realised totalled 9s. 4d. per cwt.

If, therefore, the Planter sells at 100/ c. f. i. he nets that sum less 4/4, or 95s. 8d.—the equivalent of which @  $1/3\frac{3}{4}$  per rupee is Rs. 72-14-0.

Hence, it is not advisable to accept much below Rs. 72 f. o. b.

Agent's commission and brokerage are, it is believed, payable at the same rates whether at home or in India, or if there be a difference it is negligible. For that reason they have been left out of account; but the net sum realized will, of course, be reduced by the amount of those items.

London, 15th December, 1921.

W. A. L.

**Helopeltis.**

Sir,—In connection with *Helopeltis*, will Mr. Anstead kindly publish in the *Chronicle* a list of the different sprays he recommends for this, as well as the names of firms from which they can be obtained?

INTERESTED.

[NOTE by ED., P. C.] This letter has been sent on to Mr. Anstead.



### Coffee Hybrids.

Sir,—All of us who invested in and tried Jackson's Hybrid Coffee Seed in January, 1920, are now in a position to give our experiences with it, and it would be interesting to see the various opinions.

I planted 2 acres with Basket plants of 5 pairs of leaves in August, 1920 in abandoned Coffee land, also 2 acres with ground plants of 4 to 5 pairs of leaves in somewhat similar land which had been cleared in the long past, and was densely overgrown by Lantana. I find the Basket clearing is very fair, but the plants may still be living on the good stuff in the Baskets. The clearing was manured with  $\frac{1}{4}$  bushel of Cattle manure per plant in December, 1920, and again in October, 1921. The other 2 acre clearing, I am sorry to say, is a very poor one, the best plants being 18 inches high, but most of them are still small, with 1 pair of primaries. This clearing has also been manured as above. I put in  $\frac{1}{2}$  doz. big Nursery plants (18 inches) from my own seed, and these are the only *good* plants in the clearing. Supplies, I am sorry to say, were a failure, except Basket plants in 1 to 3 year old clearings. These are 20-24 inches now, and have all been manured, as the clearings were.

On another Estate which I look after I planted  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres with ground plants in good land, and these plants were topped at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in November, 1920. The land is nothing like the magnificent land at Mr. Jackson's Malishwer Estate, near Malembi. The supplies here also were a wash out in the old Coffee, and only fair in clearings of 4 and 5 years old.

I therefore come to the conclusion that the Hybrid is very good in *good* soil, but nothing out of the extraordinary in poor soil.

I am trying Kent's Arabica this year in similar land.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) P. M. WILKINS.

Office of the Deputy Director of  
Agriculture, Planting Districts,  
Coimbatore, 4th January, 1922.

### Helopeltis.

Dear Sir,—Spray fluids are useless in the case of a bad attack of Helopeltis, although Antram's soap solution, made by dissolving one pound of soap in 20 gallons of water, has been known to aid in checking a mild attack. In cases where this pest has been held in check, it has been the result of a combination of spraying, hand-catching, and cultural methods, and it is difficult at present to assign a proper value to each.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### WANTED.

Billet wanted by Planter, of thorough experience, as Superintendent of Tea, Rubber or Coffee Estate; has excellent testimonials and references.

Box No, 107,

c/o "Planters' Chronicle."

### BANGALORE.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

*Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.*

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE,

(BY CABLE).

London, 6th January, 1922.

126s./- per cwt. Market Steady.

## HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The following telegram has been received at the Head Office of the U. P. A. S. I., Coimbatore:—

R. M. S. Dufferin 12th 6-55 a. m. Received Coimbatore 8-35 a. m.  
Madras Radio.

The Prince of Wales desires me to thank United Planters' Association of Southern India for their message of welcome, which His Royal Highness much appreciated.—Private Secretary.



## COFFEE CULTURE.

## THE QUESTION OF DIGGING,

BY "PLANTER."

The perennial importance of the question as to whether digging, either with the fork or momaty, in old coffee is beneficial or the reverse, must be my plea for dealing more largely with a subject to which I have hitherto briefly alluded.

The argument that forking is the only way of maintaining places in good tilth may be summarily dismissed, as all the tilth necessary can be obtained by a proper degree of mulching. The mulch obtained from the shade trees is of considerable assistance in this respect; and it is usually provided at a time of the year when it is most needed, that is during the cold weather, when the trees are mostly deciduous, after the cessation of the rains; and this mulch remains intact, as an efficient covering of the ground, till the setting in of the rains again, when it rots and gives the weeds a chance of growing. Thereafter the rains keep the ground permeable. A forking, carried out as it usually is during September and October, undoubtedly aerates the soil, but the work of earthworms in this connection is not to be dismissed as unimportant; and it has got to be shown that this advantage of forking is not outweighed by its disadvantages. It will not be difficult to prove that forking in coffee is not only not needed, but is harmful. For one thing it has been proved at the experimental station at Peradynia, Ceylon, that forking causes a heavy loss of soil by wash, amounting in a year with a rainfall of 59 inches to 75 tons. Now this serious loss of the best part of the soil, the surface mould, is largely eliminated by mulching. It is evident from what has been said above that, during a period of the year a mulch is absent in cases where the shade trees are depended on to supply it. It is difficult to grow a leguminous cover crop in old coffee grown under shade; so the only feasible way of supplementing the mulch provided by the shade trees is to plant *Erythrina lithosperma* cuttings, which do not object to growing under other trees, and lopping up their branches and covering the ground with them. This can be done twice in the year after the *Erythrin*as have become established, and thus the soil will be provided with an almost permanent mulch. The only draw-back to growing *E. L.* as a green manure is that it is a surface feeder; but the harmful effects of this on the coffee may be obviated by cutting away the surface roots by means of a momaty. To grow a leguminous crop on waste places and cut, carry and apply it to the land, as is sometimes advocated, would—even if it did not prove objectionable because of its high cost, as it would effect a saving in weeding—be objectionable, because it would consume labour that would be required for the carrying out of other important works, and this is a serious consideration in these days when estates do not command a superfluity of labour. Leguminous cover crops can, however, be grown with advantage in young coffee. They are useful when growing or reducing the loss of soil by wash to a minimum, and after the cessation of the rains can be cut and applied to the ground as a mulch, thus obviating to an appreciable degree the necessity of digging, weeding and even of manuring. The potash and phosphates consumed during the growth of the crop will have been drawn from the soil, but will be returned to it in a more assimilative form; but the neglect of the application of these substances cannot obviously be neglected for long.



The claim that forking is the only effective means of eliminating weeds is soon disposed of. It has been stated above that mulching with a transported cover crop grown in waste places would effect a saving in weeding. In old coffee effectively covering the ground and grown under shade, the growth of weeds is very light, and obviously could be dealt with by a hand-weeding, or all growth might be suppressed by a sufficient mulch. Obviously an application of a heavier mulch would be called for in open patches, or where the coffee was young, owing to the growth of weeds being stronger in such situations. This would only be effective till the mulch rotted, when the weeds would reassert themselves; but they could be equally easily dealt with by hand. Even in cases where mulching is neglected weeds can be effectively got rid of without resorting to the fork, unless the ground is very dry and hard and the weeds have got beyond control, when the momaty is the instrument indicated to get rid of them; for under the circumstances the fork would, in turning over large clods, do more damage to the roots of the trees; and it is noteworthy that forking usually follows a hand-weeding, or at any rate a sickling down of the weeds. In the latter case, instead of eliminating the weeds, unless the forking is immediately followed by a hand-weeding, it promotes a heavier growth of weeds. But heavy growths of weeds here referred to can only occur in thin coffee or open patches, and the obvious remedy in such cases is the growing of a cover crop.

It has also been claimed that forking is analogous to the root pruning of fruit trees in European orchards. We have only got to see how root pruning in Europe is carried out to see that forking does not bear the slightest resemblance to it. In the case of orchards the process consists of opening a trench round a fruit tree at a radius from the stem which is determined by the age and size of the tree, and only the long lateral roots are severed, while the greater portion of the root system of the tree, occupying the space enclosed by the trench remains untouched, and manure is applied over this space. In forking, on the other hand, the greater part of the surface roots are torn and mutilated up to the stems of the trees in the majority of cases, and very often roots are prised up and left exposed on the surface. The late Mr. R. H. Elliot, the well-known Mysore Coffee Planter, was of opinion that less harm would be done if the forking were confined to about 2 feet between the rows of the Coffee, but still it would not be a root pruning, the roots instead of being neatly severed, would be lacerated and broken. Digging with a momaty up the centre of the rows between the trees would be more consonant with the root pruning as practised in European orchards, for the sharp edge of the momaty blade would make a clean cut of the roots instead of mutilating them; but it would be essential that the instrument be not allowed to approach the stem of the trees closer than two feet at least. The practice of opening "renovation pits" and open trenches between the rows of trees, which is still carried out in parts, bears a still closer resemblance to root pruning in orchards, and as, according to Mr. Ashplant, the Rubber Mycologist at Mundakayam in Travancore, even the mutilation of roots increases the cropping capabilities of trees, the practice of opening renovation pits and trenches which was early introduced in Ceylon when coffee was king there, has at last been vindicated. As vertical open trenches made up the slopes between the rows of coffee are calculated to promote the loss of soil by wash, and also to deprive the surface soil of an undue share of moisture, it would appear advisable that only renovation pits should be made; and, in order that the roots on all sides of the bushes should be



pruned, they might be opened one season between the rows of coffee, and the next season between the trees in the rows. In order to reduce their cost, they might be made shallower than has been usual, as there is no need that they should be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep. As a matter of fact, making them of such a depth only brings up a quantity of sub-soil, which is calculated to dilute the surface soil and weaken it. Their cost might still further be reduced by opening them in every alternate square of 4 bushes when making them between the rows, and above every alternate bush when opening them in the rows ; but, obviously, opened in this way, they won't be so effective as a root pruning as they would be if made on the former plan.

Another effective way of conserving the soil moisture, where a sufficiency of leaf mulch is not available, is to stir the soil to a depth of 2 or 3 inches, and produce a soil mulch. In order that it should be thoroughly efficient, however, the soil should be thoroughly pulverised. If clods are left it would give admittance to the heat of the sun, and evaporation would be just as active as in the case of an unbroken soil. It used to be the practice not many years ago to have a deep hot-weather clod digging done, that is, the soil used to be left in large unbroken clods. No wonder that, under such circumstances very heavy downpours of rain were necessary to bring out the blossom.—"Indian Scientific Agriculturist."

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

### REPORT NO. 1 OF 1922.

1. GREEN DRESSINGS.—In my Report No. 19 I gave some figures showing the amount of material cut from 10 cents of waste ground at the Coffee Experiment Station which had been planted up with *Cassia hirsuta*. A final cutting of this was made on 29th December, by which time it had begun to flower and was dropping its leaves. The land will now be dug over and a new experiment started next season. The figures show the possibilities which exist of utilising waste land by the road sides, etc., on coffee estates, for raising green dressings which can be cut and carried into the neighbouring coffee to supply organic matter and nitrogen, the most expensive of the plant foods. A sample of the material analysed at the beginning of the season showed that the freshly cut green material contained 0.723 per cent of nitrogen, and if this is taken as representative of each cutting, as it no doubt is, the total yield per annum per acre was something like 178 lbs. of nitrogen.

In future experiments low cutting will be abandoned, as this year's results have shown most conclusively that cutting at about a foot from the ground is the best for ratooning purposes. Next year we propose to try and find out the maximum crop of material which can be obtained, and to test some other green manuring plants.



The actual figures obtained this year from ten cent plots of *Cassia hirsuta* were as follows :—

	First cutting.		Second cutting.		Third cutting.	
	2nd June.		27th Sept.		29th Dec.	
	Weight.	Nitrogen.	Weight.	Nitrogen.	Weight.	Nitrogen
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
10 cents, cut low	...610'5	4'4	605'5	4'38	192'25	1'39
10 cents, cut one foot from ground	...731'13	5'3	1264'9	9'15	465'13	3'36
10 cents cut low.						
Total for the year	...		1408'25 lbs. Nitrogen.		10'17 lbs.	
10 cents cut one foot from ground.						
Total for the year	...		2461'155 lbs. Nitrogen.		17'81 lbs.	

2. COFFEE IN CUBA.—Coffee plantations in Cuba are almost invariably situated in the hills at an elevation of 1,200 feet or more. The industry is therefore confined to three main districts, the northern half of Pinar del Rio Province, the southern portion of Santa Clara Province, and the south and south-eastern portion of Priento Province. The latter is by far the largest, its output being more than six times that of the other two Provinces together. At the present time Cuba produces about thirty million pounds of coffee a year of all grades and classes, which is not enough to supply the local demand, coffee being a universal drink in the island. The product is protected by a very heavy import duty, almost equal to the c. i. f. cost price of coffee delivered in New York. This dates from Spanish times, and was levied with the intention of inducing Cuba's coffee planters to increase the acreage devoted to this product to such an extent as at least to produce a quantity sufficient to meet home consumption. The scheme, however, has failed in this, as a very large quantity is imported annually.

3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS.—At the *Coffee Experiment Station* there was no rain during the week, but it was cloudy, and at the end looked like rain. It is to be hoped that we shall not get January rain again, as we did last year. The green manure crops on the waste land were cut for the third time and used as a mulch on Plot 5 which was first chop dug. The green dressing cover crop in the hybrid plots has been cut and mulched round the plants. Harvest was proceeded with, and stripping done over three acres. Seed beds have been got ready, and seed was sown on 1st January.

At the *Tea Experiment Plot*, a few light showers amounting to 1'22 inches were received, and this will help the green dressing crops which badly needed rain. 321 lbs of green leaf were plucked from 2'83 acres, and two more plots pruned last September were tipped. The tea is beginning to feel the effect of the land wind and the flush to shut down.



At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, cloudy stormy weather was experienced with a light shower of 0'14 inch on the 29th. Daily tapping was done, and a crop of 131 lbs. of wet sheet and 22 lbs. of wet scrap was obtained from 1,340 trees, a yield of 0'114 lb. per tree as compared with 0'108 lb. last week. The trees are wintering rapidly, and tapping has been stopped for the season.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, cloudy weather was experienced with 1'80 inches of rain on the 29th and 30th. Daily tapping was done on 391 trees, and a crop of 33'5 lbs. of wet sheet, and 5'2 lbs. of wet scrap obtained a yield of 0'099 lb. per tree as compared with 0'159 last week, a fall due to wintering. Tapping has now been stopped for the season.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*

7—i—22.

### NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, OOTACAMUND, ON WEDNESDAY THE 4TH JANUARY, 1922.

PRESENT.—Messrs. A. K. Weld Downing (Chairman), Macfarlane, E. Sydenham Clarke, G. Oakes, W. C. Deane, W. A. Cherry, A. S. Dandison, J. Waldick, Major J. B. Leslie Rogers, Capt. St. John Ives, P. Reed, and F. H. Farmer, Honorary Secretary.

VISITORS.—Messrs. J. Nicolls, E. Lord, W. A. Lee, C. Dunning and J. Blackhouse.

### PROCEEDINGS.

Before proceeding with the agenda of the meeting, the Chairman spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen,—Before commencing the business of the meeting it is my sorrowful duty to refer to the great loss this Association has sustained in the sad death of the late Mr. G. F. Weston Elwes. He was our Honorary Secretary for a while, and always took the keenest interest in all matters appertaining to our industry. Though he had not been long amongst us he had endeared himself to all by his courageous, high-minded views of life, and we deplore the loss of one of the best of good fellows, and a thorough sportsman, who always rode as straight as a die.

To his brave widow we extend our deepest sympathies, and trust this small expression of our appreciation of her late husband's sterling qualities will in a small measure tend in time to brighten the future for her.

Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in asking our Honorary Secretary to write to Mrs. Elwes expressing our sincere sympathies.



The meeting signified its assent, all members standing.

1. Proceedings of the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 10th November, were taken as read, and confirmed.

2. The Labour Commission Representatives being present, members were given the opportunity of voicing their opinions and desires as regards the Labour Department.

3. U. P. A. S. I. DELEGATES' REPORT ON THE LAST EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.—Mr. Farmer, in the absence of Mr. Vernede, said that he regretted that there was a strong feeling amongst all members at the Nilgiri District having been allowed to pass as a free recruiting District. Mr. Vernede, who was held up on the road, was not in time for the Labour Rule at the U. P. A. S. I. meeting. Mr. Dandison spoke strongly on the subject, and the following resolution was proposed from the Chair and carried:—

“That this Association requests the U. P. A. S. I. to consider the early revocation of their decision to exclude the Nilgiris from the list of “Planting Areas,” and express surprise that the U. P. A. S. I., while recognising the question of Local Labour on the Shevaroyes, have deliberately ignored it in the case of the Nilgiris.”

4. THE FREIGHT ON TEA.—The Chairman proposed the following resolution which was carried unanimously:—

“That the Honorary Secretary be requested to write to the U. P. A. S. I., asking if they are taking up the matter of the rail sur-charge on Tea, in view of the fact that Railway Freights have been increased, and the sur-charge is still in force.”

5. CORRESPONDENCE.—Other items were left over until the next meeting

6. LETTER REGRETTING INABILITY TO ATTEND was received from Mr. L. F. Lake.

7. PAPERS ON THE TABLE.—Memoirs of the Department of Agriculture in India, September and October, 1921.

The Bulletin of the Rubber Growers' Association for September and October, 1921.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Collector for the use of the room, the meeting terminated.

(Signed) A. K. WELD DOWNING,

Chairman.

(Signed) F. H. FARMER,

Honorary Secretary.



## SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD ON THE 13TH  
DECEMBER, 1921, AT 2 P. M. AT THE VICTORIA ROOMS, YERCAUD.

PRESENT.—Mrs. C. G. Lechler, Messrs. S. M. Hight, (Chairman), C. Dickins, W. I. A. Lechler, W. Rahm, W. A. Rahm, N. M. Hight, C. D. Ryle, C. L. Hight, H. S. Dickins, V. L. Travers-Drapes, (Honorary Secretary), Rev. Father E. Studer, Rev. Father M. Capelle, and Mr. C. Rahm.

VISITORS.—Messrs. R. F. Carey, F. J. Ryle, and E. Sice.

1. Notice calling the meeting was taken as read.

With the consent of the members present, the following were added on to the Agenda :—

5. Roads.
6. Anti-Hookworm Campaign.
7. District and Taluk Boards.
8. Acreage Declarations and Subscriptions.

2. Read and confirmed Proceedings of the General Meetings, dated 5th July and 29th September, 1921, and Committee Meeting, dated 10th November, 1921, and adjournment thereof to 17th November, 1921.

3. U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING. Delegates' Report :—

Mr. V. L. Travers-Drapes said :—“ Your Delegates do not propose to issue a formal report, as a detailed reproduction appears in the *Planters' Chronicle* No. 49 of the 3rd instant, pages 810 to 819. Any questions asked will be answered to the best of our ability.”

4. INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.—Mr. Dickins, speaking on the subject of the “ Definition of Planting Districts,” thought that, as we were the original movers of the resolution, which had brought into being the Law now framed, we should have been allowed to select our own boundaries. He made certain suggestions in the form of a resolution, which the meeting did not consider was strictly in conformance with the resolution passed at Bangalore. The sense of the meeting having been taken, Mr. H. S. Dickins was asked to withdraw his resolution. He accordingly did so.

The majority agreed that the definition of our Planting District, viz., “Shevaroy Hills, west of the road from Salem to Uttangarai” should, for the present, stand.

5. BREACH OF CONTRACT ACT.—Read letter from the Deputy Tahsildar, Yercaud, No. 89/M. R. of 21, dated 6-12-21, reference “Proposed Repeal.”



The Hony. Secretary was instructed to say that, as this matter has been placed in the hands of the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., for direct reply to the Madras Government, this Association does not consider a separate expression of our opinion necessary.

6. U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR COMMISSION.—The Chairman proposed that this Commission be invited to visit the Shevaroy, if possible, some time in January, 1922.—Carried.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to arrange a suitable date.

7. INCORPORATION.—Read letter No. 4330, dated 24th October, 1921 from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I.

This subject was discussed, and the meeting consented to the signatures being attested to the Incorporation papers. This was accordingly done, two of the members present attesting as witnesses.

8. GROUND LIMESTONE.—Read letter D. O. No. 897 of 1921 from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, Coimbatore.

The opinion of the meeting was that this matter could best and more economically be handled by a firm interested in fertilizers. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to approach Messrs. Parry & Co., Ranipet, with a view to conducting the experiment suggested with our local cunker Limestone.

9. ROADS.—Read Memorandum No. 8711 C, dated 19th November, 1921, from the Government of Madras, and Endorsement D. Dis. No. 1294-B-1 from Government of Madras, P. W. Department *re* Metalling Pentland Circular Road.

Proposed that this matter be carried over to later date, till further and more definite information can be obtained from the Executive Engineer.—Carried.

10. ANTI-HOOKWORM CAMPAIGN.—Read letter No. 5078 from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., also Dr. Kendrick's proposals, published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, No. 49 of 3rd December, 1921.

The Hony. Secretary circulated copies of the letter referred to among the members present, asking that those prepared to co-operate with the Anti-Hookworm Campaign, reply to him at an early date.

11. DISTRICT BOARD.—Read letter No. 3767/ N. C. of 21, dated 5th December, 1921, from the President, District Board, Salem, and the Hony. Secretary's reply thereto, which was approved.

Mr. H. S. Dickins informed the meeting that he also had received a communication to the effect that his membership on the District Board had ceased by virtue of his being a Contractor, *vide* Local Boards Act, Sec. 56 (i) (d). He protested strongly against the line of action adopted by the President, District Board, and pointed out that, although this section was

incorporated in the old Act, no similar suggestion had been made during his term of Office as District Board Member since 1918, although he had been contracting since 1914. He asked the Association to consider whether he had been fairly treated in this matter or not, and that, if the District Board intended to exercise their right as governed by the section quoted, he had no alternative but to resign both the membership and contracts.

The Chairman (Mr. S. M. Hight) eulogised Mr. H. S. Dickins' work on the District Board, as representing the S. P. A., and considered that before such notice is issued, Mr. Dickins should have been given the opportunity of stating whether he preferred to resign his contracts and remain a member of the Board or not. He considered we should support Mr. Dickins in his views, and enter a protest at this meeting.

No resolution was put to the meeting, but all members declared their appreciation of Mr. Dickins' past services.

12. TALUK BOARDS —Referring to the Proposed Taluk Board for the Shevaroy Hills, Mr. R. F. Carey, President, Union Board, Yercaud, informed this Association of his views in a speech.

After which the Chairman proposed that Mr. R. F. Carey and the Honorary Secretary be deputed to frame a petition to Government requesting that the Shevaroy Hills be formed into an independent Taluk Board as from April 1922.—Carried.

(Signed) V. L. TRAVERS-DRAPES,

Honorary Secretary.

## AGRICULTURE versus MALARIA.

The highly important subject of public health in the West Indies has recently come into prominence by the holding of an Intercolonial Conference in Demerara. The findings of the Conference were well summarized by Captain G. B. Mason, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P.\* The principal resolution of the Conference was that a Sanitary Commissioner for the West Indies should be appointed not as an executive officer but rather as an adviser, with much the same powers as he invested in the present Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture.

It will be remembered that a similar recommendation was made at the recent inter-colonial education conference in respect of the appointment of a federal or Imperial education officer.

These resolutions are interesting and important, since they mark appreciation, on the part of two sister professions, of the importance of uniform, consistent and persistent policies in respect of the essential branches of human welfare.

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\* *West India Committee Circular* for August 18 and September 1.



Without ignoring the good work being done by Colonial Health Departments, and the great work of the Rockefeller Foundation in respect of hookworm, it may be stated that, in the meantime, until bigger federal schemes mature, a great deal can be done to help improve matters, especially in respect of the incidence of malaria by the agriculturist himself. This is well brought out by Dr. E. P. Minett, Government Medical Officer of Health, British Guiana, in an article entitled 'Agriculture *versus* Malaria.'†

Dr. Minett says:—

'A perusal of the reports of the various anti-malarial commissions established in various parts of the world throws much light on the great part played by the agriculturist in the fight against malaria. The well-known "Bund" system used by Bentley in India is an example of what can be done to reduce malaria by means of properly controlled and applied agricultural methods of fighting the mosquito. The "bund" system consists in converting low-lying portions of land into ridges or beds, somewhat in the same way as is done on sugar estates, but the beds are wider; the high beds are then used for cultivation, and the water remaining in the channels between is kept comparatively free from mosquito larvæ simply by keeping the channels free from vegetation, and by strict attention to the edges. The mosquito larvæ, being thus deprived of shelter, are left to be dealt with by their natural enemies. It is a well-known fact that mosquito larvæ are very difficult to find in ponds, trenches or streams where no vegetation exists. In Salonika it is remarkable that the small streams are free from vegetation, and larvæ are very difficult to find except at one portion of the year during the spring, when they are overgrown with a small filamentous aquatic plant called "spirogyra." This plant appears at the beginning of the mosquito season and is the natural food of the larvæ. In streams where this vegetable growth was systematically removed, larvæ were very rarely detected, and adult mosquitoes uncommon after the bushes which form their natural shelter had been removed.

'Much controversy has arisen over rice cultivation, and interesting articles have been written in the "Rice Journal" and "Southern Farmer" in America. A large number of investigations were carried out, and it was found that some rice fields do not produce anopheles at all, whilst other rice fields produce them in moderate or large numbers, but seepage and drainage water incident to rice culture largely increase these numbers. This is borne out by our own investigations in this colony, as I think it is generally admitted that, although anopheles mosquitoes are undoubtedly found in rice fields, still they are much more abundant in the drainage canals and swamps surrounding the rice fields than in the fields themselves. This is what would be expected, as the mosquito larvæ do not thrive in the open clear water of the rice fields, because they have no shelter from their natural enemies.

'The writer has always held that undoubtedly rice cultivation is not a healthy one from a malaria point of view, still, rice fields are preferable from health point of view to stagnant swamps, borrow pits and overgrown neglected drainage trenches—firstly, because rice fields are far less suitable breeding places for mosquitoes, and secondly, because rice fields are valu-

† *Journal of the Board of Agriculture of British Guiana* for October, 1921.

able from an economic and food standpoint, and they mean an abundant supply of the staple diet of the labouring classes. Whereas swamps, etc., are much more suitable breeding places, and are of no economic value whatever.

'The preliminary report of the Anti-Malarial Commission in Egypt states: "The largest breeding places, such as marshes, borrow pits and birkas (ponds) can only be dealt with by filling them in." To attempt to fill in the vast areas of marshy land in British Guiana is a hopeless task, but this land could be more widely taken up for rice cultivation, and after a few years other crops can be substituted, when the drainage has been improved and the surface gradually raised by successive rice crops.

'The Egyptian report states: "Rice, it is understood, cannot be grown under conditions that will not produce mosquitoes. It is, however, a crop that is generally grown on land unsuitable for other cultivation, and in Egypt, when the rice fields have been properly drained, it will to a great extent yield automatically to more valuable crops, such as cotton."

'If swamps and land unsuitable for cultivation can be made suitable by means of rice cultivation as preliminary crops in Egypt, I see no reason why it cannot be carried out successfully here.

'In some parts of the world where rice is grown largely, very great attention is paid to the drainage and irrigation canals, as being more important from a malaria point of view than the rice fields themselves. The banks of the larger channels and the whole bed of the smaller drains are sprayed with crude petroleum oil; they are then lightly sprayed with petrol or refined petroleum, and fired at once. This treatment has been found very efficient in preventing mosquito breeding in Trinidad. It has occasionally been used here on a small scale, but not on a large enough scale, owing to the expense, to prove its efficiency. Every village lot proprietor can become an anti-malaria enthusiast on a small scale, with very little trouble and very great benefit to his own and his family's health.

'Low-lying swampy ground can be raised and converted into valuable cultivation land by the very simple process of digging out a few inches of the low-lying swampy patch of land. Then fill in the hollow with house and garden refuse until it reaches above the level of the surrounding land, finally spread the earth originally excavated evenly over the surface of the rubbish. In a few weeks it will settle down and provide a most valuable provision bed where previously only a dangerous mosquito breeding swamp existed.

'The above is a piece of practical hygiene which might very well be carried out by school children in the school yard as an agricultural lesson.

'Malaria disappears before good agriculture and sanitation.'

In concluding, it may be of interest to the reader to have the following statistics, furnished by Dr. Angus Macdonald, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M., showing the effect of anti-malarial measures on the reduction of the disease in Kingston, Jamaica.

Year	1910.	1911.	1912.
Malaria deaths ...	126	72	16
Malaria notifications (General Hospital) ...	723	349	81
	No specific anti-malaria measures undertaken.	Specific measures of prevention taken.	Measures of prevention maintained.



Dr. MacDonald states that the results of 1911 were obtained by the same subordinate sanitary staff that existed in 1910. The progress is due to their work having been specifically directed to the prevention of malaria, as well as to other and more general matters of public health.

Many of the larger estates in Jamaica are now tackling the malaria problem as part of the estate routine and expenditure.

It is intended that the West Indian Agricultural College shall take up the question of agricultural sanitation, and in its extension work should be able to do a great deal to improve conditions on estates and settlements in the West Indies.

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## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
COMMITTEE, HELD AT CALCUTTA ON 20TH DECEMBER, 1921.

VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION.—In a letter, dated 17th December, Mr. F. G. Clarke intimated his resignation of the office of Vice-Chairman of the Association, and stated that the Hon'ble S. J. Best had returned to Calcutta and would represent his firm on the Committee. Mr. Best was now unanimously appointed Vice-Chairman in succession to Mr. Clarke; and he was also appointed to take Mr. Clarke's place on the several Sub-Committees of which the latter was a member.

ASSAM LABOUR ENQUIRY.—A letter, dated 5th December, had been received from the Secretary, Assam Labour Enquiry Committee, enclosing copies of questions circulated by that Committee together with copies of a memorandum addressed to the managers of tea gardens. This letter, with the accompanying memorandum, was published for the information of members in circular No. 85, dated 9th December.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE: PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.—It was explained in the proceedings of the Committee meeting, held on 22nd November that a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and Mr. Lennox, had been appointed to formulate a reply to certain enquiries emanating from the Government of India as to the adequacy and suitability of the present system of labour recruitment for tea gardens in Assam, in the light of the draft convention and recommendation concerning unemployment, and as to the possibility and advisability of esta-

blishing side by side with the present system a system of public employment agencies. A reply to the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department, had been submitted by the Sub-Committee and, after approval by the Committee, sent in the following terms :—

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce have forwarded to this Association copies of your letter to the Chamber, No. 326-T.-Com, dated the 26th October, 1921, and of its accompaniments on the subject of the draft convention and recommendation concerning unemployment adopted at the Washington Labour Conference.

2. In their letter of 30th September to you, the Government of India invite attention to the draft convention and recommendation. Article 2 of the convention requires every member of the Conference ratifying the convention to establish a system of free public employment agencies under the control of a central authority. The draft convention has been ratified by the Government of India, who, however, explained in their despatch of 25th November, 1920 to the Secretary of State that the creation of free public employment agencies had hitherto been thought unnecessary, since the demand for industrial labour had till now exceeded the supply. But it was stated that, in a few congested areas, where wages remained relatively low owing to the outside demand for industrial labour failing to reach these areas, the institution of unemployment agencies might facilitate migration to areas where the demand for labour was never fully met.

3. The Government of India invite opinions and suggestions on this subject, and in this connection they draw attention to the system of labour recruitment for the tea gardens in Assam. After explaining the system, the Government of India assume that it will be re-examined in the light of the draft convention and recommendation. In the event of the retention of the system being recommended, enquiry is made as to whether it would be advisable to experiment with public employment agencies existing side by side with the garden sirdars' system in localities from which the garden labour is usually recruited, and, if so, in what way the operations of the two systems could be co-ordinated as suggested in Article 2 of the convention.

4. The General Committee have now considered the question, and they direct me to submit their views in the matter. Time has not allowed of their consulting the Branch Associations as they would have liked to do, but as they understand the reference it is not necessary for them to express any opinion on the general question whether free public employment agencies should or should not be instituted in this country. And, it will be sufficient if they consider the subject from the point of view of the possible effect which such agencies, if established, might have on the system of recruitment for the tea industry in Assam. The Committee find it a matter of considerable difficulty to arrive at definite conclusions on the subject. The Government of India recognise that the system is probably free from serious abuse, and the industry is certainly of opinion that the risk of illegal recruiting and of other abuses is now slight; not only is contractors' recruiting abolished and the recruiting by garden sirdars limited to their own families and friends, but the supervision exercised by the Assam Labour Board is such as to reduce the likelihood of malpractices to a minimum.



5. Whether free public employment agencies, working side by side with this system in the recruiting areas, would have any injurious effect on it is difficult to foretell, particularly in the absence of any detailed information as to how the public agencies would be controlled, the qualifications of the staffs, etc. The industry are very anxious that any risk of reviving the abuses formerly connected with recruiting for Assam should be avoided, and they fear that, unless the public agencies were very closely supervised, there might be a real danger of some of the abuses associated with the arkatti making their appearance again. A garden sirdar, for example, might be open to the temptation of bribing an employee of the agency to hand him over some of those who had applied at the agency for work; while on the other hand, if labour were scarce and there was keen competition for it through the public agencies, it might be to the advantage of unscrupulous employers to bribe a garden sirdar coming in from his country with a batch of his relatives recruited for Assam.

6. Considering the matter from the point of view of the possible advantage that public employment agencies might be to the industry, I am directed to say that the General Committee do not think they would be of much benefit so far as Assam is concerned, except in cases where new gardens are being opened out, or where estates have ceased to recruit for some time and have lost touch with the recruiting districts. But in the case of the Dooars, Darjeeling and the Terai, Government are aware that Act VI does not apply to recruiting for these areas, and in the case of the Dooars in particular such employment agencies might possibly be useful, especially in view of the competition which recruiting for the Dooars tea estates has to meet in their recruiting areas from other industries.

7. The Committee notice—paragraph 7 of the Government of India's letter—that under Article 2 of the Convention Committees must be appointed, including representatives of employers and of workers, to advise on matters connected with the carrying on of employment agencies. Government think there would be no serious difficulty in securing representatives of employers: but they recognise that it may not be easy to nominate suitable representatives of labour in all cases. This is, the Committee think, a very real danger. Experience in India has shown how supremely difficult it is to get proper representatives of labour, and how great the tendency is for labour representation to get into the hands of political agitators and others who have little real interest in the problem of labour as such, and desire only to acquire over labour an influence which can be utilised for their own end and does little good to the worker.

8. The Committee would only add, that, should it be decided to introduce free public employment agencies, these should in the first instance be restricted to a few experimental areas, where industrial or other recruitment is not extensively carried on, and that the question of extending the agencies to other districts should be allowed to remain over pending the consideration of the results of the working of the agencies first established.

WORKING OF THE ASSAM LABOUR AND EMIGRATION ACT VI OF 1901.  
—A letter No. 4593-96-Com., had been received from the Government of Bihar and Orissa, forwarding for the information of the Association copy of

a resolution recorded by the local Government on inland emigration under the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901, for the year ending the 30th June, 1921.

The following extract from this resolution is published for the information of members :—

The total number of emigrants recruited from the province, including the Feudatory States, was 10,537 against 68,466 in 1919-20, and 178,918 in 1918-19. This large falling off in the number of recruits was partly due to the present depression in the tea industry and partly to improved agricultural conditions. While the decrease was shared more or less by all the districts in the province, the principal contributors to it were the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhoom, Singhbhum, Cuttack, Balasore, Sambalpur and Santal Parganas.

The reports show that the "places of accommodation" were maintained in good sanitary condition, and that there was no serious outbreak of any epidemic diseases in them. A few cases of cholera occurred in the two places of accommodation in the district of Cuttack, but only one case was fatal.

**THE INDIAN FISCAL COMMISSION.**—In a letter, dated 14th December, the Chairman of the Assam Branch referred to the paragraph on this subject in the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee, held on 8th November in which it was stated that the Committee proposed that the evidence given by them to the Commission should be limited to dealing with the export duty on tea, and the import duty on such items as machinery and other materials used by the industry. The Chairman of the Branch suggested that a strong protest should be made, either by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, or by the Association, against the high import duties on foreign piece-goods.

There was also before the Committee a letter of 16th December, addressed to the President of the Chamber by Mr. C. W. Rhodes, M. L. A., Vice-President of the Chamber and a member of the Fiscal Commission. This letter enquired, *inter alia*, whether the Tea Association did not propose to submit written evidence to the Commission. The position was that the Association's statement had not yet been framed, and the Committee now appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Gordon and Mr. Lennox to prepare a note for approval.

**THE INDIAN TEA CESS COMMITTEE.**—In a letter, dated 15th December the Government of India, Department of Commerce, stated that Mr. W. G. Figg had resigned his seat on the Indian Tea Cess Committee, and requested that a successor should be nominated. The Committee now nominated the Hon'ble Mr. S. J. Best to the vacant seat.



# THE PLANTERS' CHRONICLE.

## RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON

### Monthly Statistics.

DECEMBER, 1921.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom

as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

#### IMPORTS.

From	November.			11 Months ended Nov.		
	1921.	1920.	1913.	1921.	1920.	1913
Straits Settlements and F. M. S. ...	2,308	6,173	2,311	45,701	55,806	22,850
Ceylon and British India ...	1,015	2,381	708	17,208	24,667	6,750
Dutch East Indies, &c. ...	746	1,751	123	14,252	11,429	1,533
Brazil and Peru ...	104	531	1,080	1,878	8,238	15,968
Other Countries ...	24	106	1,813	608	2,967	17,350
Total Tons ...	4,197	10,942	6,035	79,647	103,107	64,451

#### EXPORTS.

To	November.			11 Months ended Nov.		
	1921.	1920.	1913.	1921.	1920.	1913
United States of America ...	3,066	30	2,009	18,022	24,814	16,260
Canada ...	21	157	22	135	3,134	421
France ...	903	290	654	6,882	11,599	4,833
Belgium ...	189	95	242	1,097	2,075	2,092
Italy ...	127	45	11	1,248	2,568	245
Spain ...	28	34	3	160	205	61
Germany, Austria, Hungary ...	506	864	590	7,345	4,857	9,056
Russia ...	...	17	612	163	58	5,796
Sweden, Norway and Denmark ...	32	131	43	717	1,126	608
Other Countries in Europe ...	137	182	95	2,514	961	1,138
Other Extra European Countries...	8	50	71	54	1,042	684
Total Tons ...	5,017	1,895	4,352	38,337	52,439	41,194

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the month of November.

		Deli.		Stocks 30th Nov.		
		Landed	vered			
		for Nov.	for Nov.	1921.	1920.	1919.
LONDON	Plantation ...	4,549	3,370	70,582*	45,118	23,720
	Other Grades...	7	19	204*	432	586
LIVERPOOL...	Plantation ...	391†	360†	8,278†	2,866†	1,960†
	Para & Peruvian	360	230	1,570	931	650
	Other Grades.,	...	...	457	443	386
Totals London & Liverpool ...		5,307	3,979	81,091	49,790	27,302

† Official Returns from the six recognised Public Warehouses.

\* Adjusted owing to stock-taking at various Wharves.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber, excluding Gutta, Balata and Guayule, to and from the U. S. A., AS PER RETURNS OF THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

		September.			9 Months ended Sept.		
		1921.	1920.	1919.	1921.	1920.	1919.
IMPORTS ...		15,422	12,448	13,747	114,846	218,264	170,074
EXPORTS ...		586	598	224	4,036	2,365	1,465

RECEIPTS AT PARA.

		October.			Jan./Oct. (10 months).		
		1921.	1920.	1919.	1921.	1920.	1919.
Rubber	...	1,858	2,095	2,170	12,254	18,757	21,555
Caucho	...	468	208	310	4,433	5,899	6,670
Total...		2,326	2,303	2,480	16,687	24,656	28,225



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

*Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.*

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 13th January, 1922.

129s./- per cwt. Market Firm.

### BROWN BAST.

We have received from the Rubber Growers' Association a copy of Sanderson and Sutcliffe's recent work on Brown Bast. The essential and original portion of the book deals with the structure and anatomical peculiarities of Brown Bast tissue. Some highly interesting microphotographs are included, which clearly illustrate the derangement of the laticiferous tissue and other abnormal features of Brown Bast cortex.

To the practical planter, the importance of these plates is the demonstration they afford of the extensive anatomical changes which follow upon an attack of Brown Bast. No one who studies them carefully and observes

the manner in which the individual latex tubes have been bent and diverted, and notes, further, the extensive conversion of ordinary living cortical cells into heavily thickened stone cells, can ever imagine that trees so affected will cure themselves, or, indeed, that anything short of a surgical operation which rids the tree of this abnormal tissue, and stimulates it to build up a new cortex, will restore the tree to normality.

With most recent investigators, the authors of this book agree that Brown Bast is primarily due to the operation of tapping, although the experiments which have led to the acceptance of this view are unfortunately scarcely referred to. The theory advanced by these two writers to account for the physiological origin of Brown Bast is so vaguely expressed that the reader may well be pardoned if he fails to grasp their meaning. Using the authors' language, so far as possible, their theory is somewhat as follows:— 'In the operation of tapping, a portion of the cortex is removed at frequent and regular intervals. The effect of the removal of this cortex, by tapping, upon the remaining tissue in the area tapped over, is to stimulate it into the abnormal activity which results in renewal. The activity aroused is not confined to the normal cambium. At a point just within the tapped surface, another layer of cells, which, in the ordinary way, would not become meristematic\* until much later, if at all, assumes the functions of a cork cambium, and also starts an active multiplication of cells. Since in a group of inter-related and inter-dependent tissues which are bound up in one system, it is impossible for extensive growth changes to take place in one area without making demands upon and necessitating adjustments in the adjacent areas, the effect of this new tissue formation upon the surface tapped over is to stimulate reciprocal new tissue formation in the area yet untapped. The pressures exerted by these new formations, and the abnormal displacements which ensue, lead, the authors believe, to the rupture of the latex tubes, and this, and the further complications set up by the decaying latex, produces eventually the condition of Brown Bast.

Such in brief, is the authors' theory of the origin of Brown Bast. It was obviously suggested by the studies they have made of the secondary changes which take place in Brown Bast tissues. One can see from the microphotographs in this book what a far reaching disturbance the development of a new organ like a burr has on the cortical tissues round about. Something has to give way, and the tissue displacements, by leading to the rupture of latex vessels, are clearly seen to have propagated disturbances further afield. One burr, apparently, leads to another until the whole cortex is a mass of burrs.

The anatomical changes which follow upon Brown Bast formation are very suggestive, but while recognising the importance of taking into account the influence which the renewing tissue formed after tapping, by its demands upon the food supplies, and by its growth pressures, has upon the adjacent cortex, one can scarcely follow Messrs Sutcliffe and Sanderson in seeing here the cause of Brown Bast, and one wishes that they had supported their hypothesis by something more than anatomical analogies and general theoretical considerations.

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\* NOTE.—"Meristem"—embryonic undifferentiated tissue which, in plants, retains its capacity for further growth and division. The "cambium" is an example of a meristem, and by its activity new wood and bark are being continuously formed.



The theory that Brown Bast is of physiological, and not of organismal origin may now be taken as established, though whether it is due to the withdrawal of excessive quantities of latex, to the semi-isolation of tissues and the breaking down of conducting channels by repeated excisions ; to the pressures and other effects of new tissue formation as contended in this book ; or to some other effect produced by the abnormal excitation of the tissues by repeated tapping, cannot be said. The investigations of Farmer and Horne have demonstrated the existence in Brown Bast tissues of degenerative changes in the walls of the latex tubes and phloem, and in bringing these to light they have, we think, got nearer to an explanation of the true nature of Brown Bast than the authors of this book. There seems to be no doubt but that Brown Bast is primarily and essentially an affection of the latex tubes and phloem, and not a sort of general rupture set up by anarchic meristems as contended in this book. It is this unhealthy condition of the tissues which results ultimately in the abnormal meristematic activity and consequent rupture of the latex tubes which is so marked a feature of Brown Bast. The development of burrs is frequently long delayed, and appears to be an entirely secondary symptom of the disease. Similar burrs and structural modifications may, and sometimes indeed do arise from causes other than tapping, and in trees unaffected by Brown Bast.

In connection with the question of burrs, a table is given showing the proportion of Brown Bast trees on one estate which have developed burrs. In one field, 68% of the diseased trees were burred. For some reason or other, the Southern Indian trees do not seem to be as prone to burr formation. It may be, of course, that the burrs develop more slowly here, but, whatever the reason, burred trees are markedly less common in this country than they are in the countries further east.

On the question of treatment, this book favours stripping as against scraping, and a number of statistics are given to show the efficacy of the former method. It is evident, however, from several of their statements that the authors have not always appreciated the practical difficulties of the operation, particularly where the affection is well down on the roots, and they appear to have accepted some of the figures given to them by people who have carried out the stripping treatment with far too implicit a faith.

Stripping may be all very well in Malaya, but the season during which this operation is possible in Southern India is so short, that the method is not generally practicable. Owing, moreover, to the devitalization of the trees by Secondary Leaf Fall disease the bark is frequently too lacking in sappiness to permit of successful stripping. One wishes, therefore, that more had been said of other methods of treatment. A high proportion of cures are frequently alleged to have been brought about by scraping and the application of hot tar. Similar results have not followed when we have tried this method for ourselves, and it would be a good thing if the actual effect upon the tree of deep and light scraping and the application of caustic chemicals were investigated a little more closely.

There is a good deal of interesting stuff in the book, but, admitting its utility and suggestiveness in certain respects, one cannot help feeling conscious of its incompleteness as a treatise on Brown Bast. Of the numerous experiments in the artificial production of Brown Bast by excessive tapping, and by the isolation of tissues, (carried out for the most part in the D. E. I.)

which have led to the abandonment of the organismal theory, there is no mention, nor it seems, has it been thought worth while to repeat them. The authors of this work have devoted considerable time and ability to the anatomical side of the Brown Bast problem, and it is well that they should have issued the results of their work, but while anatomical investigations may reveal the extent of the damage and may possibly suggest a clue to the nature of the disease, they will never, in our opinion, completely elucidate the problem, nor will they discover a practical solution. It is only by field experimentation on the lines started in the D. E. I., and by prolonged trials of different methods of tapping that a way will be found out of our difficulties, and a system evolved which will give remunerative yields, and at the same time be productive of the minimum amount of Brown Bast.

However, despite its defects, which, apart from the ambiguous phrasing are mainly defects of omission, this book is a welcome addition to the literature of rubber planting. One would scarcely say that it should be in every planters' library, but every planter who wishes to know something of the structural changes wrought by Brown Bast, and who desires to have a better knowledge of the working parts of the machine he is called upon to utilize, will be repaid by a perusal of the work before us.

"Brown Bast," by A. R. Sanderson and H. Sutcliffe, Rubber Growers' Association—7/6.

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I. .

REPORT NO. 2 OF 1922. (8—14 JANUARY.)

1. Mr. Anstead was on leave playing cricket for the Presidency v. the Hindus at Madras at the beginning of the week, and returned to Coimbatore on the 11th. He expects to remain at head-quarters till about the 25th of this month, when he will pay a short visit of inspection to the Coffee Experiment Station at Sidapur, Coorg. The Director of Agriculture is expected at Coimbatore for a few days on and after 20th January.

2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (1—7 JANUARY.)—At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, two heavy showers were received during the week, one of 25 cents on the 1st, and one of 75 cents on the 3rd. Advantage had been taken of this inch of rain to continue the chop digging of the Station, and 3'15 acres have been finished. The rain has done a lot of good to the supplies and the green dressing crops, but it is feared that it will harm the future crop. Rain has been general, unfortunately, through the coffee districts, and I hear that some places had as much as three inches, which will quite spoil all chances of a good crop next year. Harvest was proceeded with, and 4'31 acres were stripped during the week, yielding 1,019 lbs. of cherry. Seed selected on the Station, and some of Kent's Arabica has been put down in a seed bed, to raise a nursery for next season's supplies.



At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a fine bright week was experienced with very cold nights. 525 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 4·68 acres, a yield of 112 lbs. per acre. A second round of tipping was done over 4·79 acres pruned last September, and a yield of 177 lbs. of leaf obtained, or 37 lbs. per acre. A cover of *Oxalis* (the purple flowered species) is being established in one plot as a cover crop, by preferential weeding. This weed has usually been looked upon as harmful to the tea, but this is probably imagination, as covers of *Oxalis corniculata* (the small yellow flowered species) has now been established for some years on estates in the High Range, and no damage to the tea has resulted. On the contrary this plant has proved an excellent cover to stop wash on steep slopes and retain and build up the surface soil. Drains are being terraced. *Helopeltis* was present on the China and China hybrid plots, and catching is being done.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, the beginning of the week was cloudy, and 1·57 inches of rain were recorded. Normal wintering is proceeding, and the trees which shed their leaves early are already beginning to put on new foliage. Tapping has been stopped for the season.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, there was no rain during the week, and the strong east wind continued to blow. Most of the trees are leafless, and some have begun to put out new foliage. Dead wood is still being removed and burned. A girth census of the Station is being made. Tapping has been stopped for the season.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*

15—i—22.

## SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF A GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOW, SAKLASPUR, ON 4—1—22.

PRESENT.—Mr. C. Lake, (President), Lieut.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D. S. O., Messrs. F. M. Hamilton, P. Hunt and Major A. L. Hill, O. B. E., M. C., (Honorary Secretary).

Before proceeding with the business of the Meeting, the President referred to the sad death of Mr. J. D. Brewer, lately of this Association, formerly of Coorg and the Anamallais, and asked the Association to record its regret at his death. This was done, all present standing.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were confirmed.

(i) COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Committee's action in supporting the U. P. A. S. I. scheme for the collection of all subscriptions by Head-quarters at Coimbatore at a cost of about Rs. 20 per month, provided sufficient other District Associations come in, was approved.

(ii) **AMENDMENT OF ACT XIII OF 1859.**—Colonel Crawford informed the Meeting of the main points of his evidence before the Select Committee to consider the amendment of Act XIII, and said that it had accepted the suggestion of the Association that the time for taking action under the amended Act should be raised from 3 to 6 months.

A letter from Mr. Nanjundiah was read stating that the Mysore Government was actually in communication with the Government of India with a view to secure reciprocity of warrants under Act XIII.

A vote of thanks to Col. Crawford for representing the Association was recorded.

(iii) **U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR COMMISSION.**—It was decided that the meeting between the Commission and the Association should take place at the Munzerabad Club, Saklaspur, at 11-0 a. m. on 12-1-22, and that the Association should inform the Commission that it was opposed to the money to be raised under the scheme of fees being spent on new areas.

(iv) **LABOUR RATES OF PAY.**—The action taken by the Central Committee of the Mysore Associations was noted.

(v) **MANURE SHED AT HASSAN.**—The Honorary Secretary reported that he had been into Hassan on 1st to take over the land allotted by the Railway, but did not take it over, as the Sub-Divisional Officer had made other proposals to the Agent, Mysore Railways, allotting the Association a very much better site. The Agent had agreed, and formal sanction was expected shortly. The new site, instead of being at the extreme end of the siding, is much nearer the present goods shed, and where the embankment is only about 4 or 5 feet high instead of 10 feet. The new site was agreed to by the Association, and the Committee empowered to take action in the matter of the erection of the shed. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to call up half (*i. e.*, As 4 per acre) of the promised subscriptions.

(vi) **CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE THREE MYSORE ASSOCIATIONS.**—It was noted that, all three Associations having agreed to the proposals, the Central Committee had been constituted.

(vii) **NO. 1 COORG AND MYSORE M. G. COY.**—The O. C. Mysore Platoon informed the Meeting of what progress had been made with the formation of the Unit.

(viii) **MANURIAL EXPERIMENTS WITH LIME.**—A letter from the D. D. A. (Planting Districts) was read saying that Messrs. Massey & Co., Madras, were prepared to experiment with their disintegrators to ascertain if local cunker limestone could be ground to the requisite fineness if they were supplied with the limestone. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to ask Messrs. Massey & Co. whether the disintegrator recently supplied by them to a member of the Association was suitable for such experiments. The member kindly agreed to carry out the experiment if his machine was suitable. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write also to Messrs. Parry & Co. on the subject of ground limestone.

(ix) **INCORPORATION.**—The present position was reported to the Meeting.



(x) TAX ON RAILWAY FREIGHT.—The decision of the Mysore Government to impose a tax of As 2½ in the rupee on all railway freights until 31-3-22, when the scale of freights would be revised, was reported to the Meeting.

(xi) SUCCESSION ACT.—The introduction of a Bill by the Mysore Government to amend the Succession Act in Mysore as requested by the Association in respect of granting exemption from giving security in cases of probate as distinguished from letters of administration, thus bringing it into conformity with the law in British India on this point, was reported to the Meeting.

(xii) ELECTION OF A NEW MEMBER:—Proposed by Mr. P. M. Wilkins, and seconded by Mr. C. Lake, Mr. C. S. Iron was elected a member.

(xiii) VISIT OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES TO MYSORE.—A letter of welcome to His Royal Highness to be sent on his arrival in Mysore was drafted.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting ended.

PAPERS ON THE TABLE:—"The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association", and "Land Settlement in South Africa".

(Signed) C. LAKE,  
President,

( „ ) A. L. HILL,  
Honorary Secretary.

## FRUIT-GROWING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Fruit-growing in this State affords an excellent opportunity for those who desire to take up land as a means of earning a livelihood, and favour intensive culture on comparatively small holdings in preference to wheat-growing or stock raising on large properties.

The work entailed, though fairly constant, is not arduous, and even to those who are new to it, soon becomes interesting. It is particularly suited to married couples with families, for much of the lighter operations, such as picking, grading, packing, case making, etc., can be performed by the younger members, girls as well as boys.

Soil and climate, which are the main factors determining the distribution of fruit lands throughout the State, have been proved by experience to be eminently suitable over a great extent of country.

Apples, pears, plums, peaches, nectarines, apricots, grapes, oranges, lemons, guavas, persimmons, loquats and passion fruit are amongst the many varieties of fruits which are being successfully and profitably grown.

The excellence of the product has been proved, not only in this State, but in every overseas market to which Western Australian fruit has been sent and sold in competition with that from other countries.

The orchards in Western Australia vary in size from one acre to 200 acres. The former is the smallest individual planting that can be considered as a commercial proposition, and of the extensive places, such as the latter, there are not many over 100 acres.

The majority of the commercial orchards in the State range from 10 acres to 50 acres, the most common size being between 10 and 20 acres.

The total area under orchards in season 1919-20 was 19,817 acres, of which 14,345 were in bearing, and 5,472 not of bearing age. The number of orchards of one acre and upwards is 2,830, so that the actual average size works out at 7 acres. The value of production for season, 1919-20 amounted to £630,845.

In addition to the above there are 2,975 acres under vineyards, of which 2,353 acres are in bearing and 622 not of bearing age. The value of grapes produced in season, 1919-20 amounted to £102,604.

It is hard to place a definite value on orchard properties at present planted, for this varies according to age, condition and variety of fruits being grown, and the possession or lack of plant and buildings necessary for working. In accordance with these, values will range from £50 to £300 per acre.

The capital necessary for a man to purchase land and maintain himself while waiting returns will depend upon the variety of fruit decided upon, and whether the land is purchased from private property owners, or obtained direct from the Government. Apple and pear trees will give a small return in the 5th year, and should produce enough to pay working expenses in the 6th. Orange and lemon trees, if planted in suitable soil and well grown, will yield a profitable return in the 4th year. Grapes for table use or drying will become profitable in the 3rd year.

Apple growing, up to the present, has received most attention in Western Australia, nearly half the total area planted being devoted to this fruit, and the export trade is working up to large dimensions, 200,000 cases having been sent away during the year ended 30th June, 1920.

For apple and pear growing there are still available areas of suitable land in the South West which can be obtained from the Government at low rates as conditional purchase land. The annual payments for these lands (excepting re-purchase estates) for the first five years only equal the instalment of the interest on the prescribed survey fee and improvements, if any. The purchase money without interest is payable in half-yearly instalments extending thereafter up to 25 years, and the title is obtainable when the required improvements and purchase money are paid. A charge of 30/- is made for the preparation of the parchment title.

A homestead farm of from 10 to 160 acres is granted rent free, the only fees payable thereon being survey fee of £7/15/., and office and lease fees amounting to £1/6/-. If, however, it is selected within a larger surveyed block, and the balance of such surveyed block is taken up by the same applicant, the fees only amount to £1/6/-. No other cash payments are required until the Crown grant is applied for, the cost of which is 30/-. The conditions attached are that improvements must be equal in value to



14/- per acre within seven years, and the external boundaries properly fenced in accordance with the regulations.

Smaller areas from 5 to 50 acres, may be secured on terms of three years wherein to pay the purchase money and do the prescribed improvements.

The big initial outlay on most of the virgin land mentioned above is required in connection with clearing, the country being heavily timbered. The Agricultural Bank provides assistance to enable the settler to cope with the work, advances being made as loans for clearing, fencing and buildings as the work proceeds. In this way the settler is enabled to earn money for his immediate needs while preparing his land for planting, and repayment of the money advanced is spread over a period of 25 years. During the first five years payment of interest is only charged, the loan being repayable after the above mentioned time by forty equal half-yearly instalments.

In the fruit districts a means of tiding over the period of waiting for returns may be provided by growing other crops, such as potatoes, tomatoes, cape gooseberries, melons, pumpkins, etc.

With the assistance of the Agricultural Bank and the growth of annual crops as mentioned above, money for immediate needs may be obtained, but the settler should have at least £500 to commence with after he has secured his land. If the latter is purchased from private owners the price will range from £5 to £40 per acre.

An orchard or vineyard, which has been planted in good soil and well cared for from time of planting, will yield, when in full bearing, a gross annual return ranging from £50 to £100 per acre, according to seasonal variation in crops and prices. The actual net income derivable from orchard properties is difficult to estimate, for it depends to a considerable extent upon whether the work is being performed by the settler and his family, or whether it is an absentee proposition, when labour difficulties occasionally occur. The small self-contained orchards are usually, for this reason, more profitable than the very large ones, and where only occasional outside labour is needed in busy times, half the gross returns mentioned would be available to pay the settler for the work done by himself and family.

It is worthy of mention that there are instances in this State of fruit-growers, who are now in exceedingly comfortable circumstances, who were, before going on the land, merely working for wages, and I know of one of these in particular who told me that he was down to his last £5 when his first returns for fruit came to hand.—(*Importers and Exporters' Journal*.)

## RUBBER NOTES.

Dr. Philip Schidrowitz writes as follows in the "India Rubber Journal":—

### BROWN BAST AND POVERTY OF SOIL.

The current (November 30th) issue of the "Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry," contains a letter from Mr. G. O. Ramsay, of Talbot, Victoria, Australia, in which he suggests that chronic nitrogen starvation is the cause of Brown Bast. "Rubber lands," he points out, "generally, are notoriously low in nitrogen, and the rubber tree is itself a nitrogen robber. The only possible supply of nitrogen to . . . clean-weeded estates is from the nitrates produced by the frequent thunderstorms. . . . A critical limit must be reached sooner or later, and thereafter disease must follow." Readers of these notes will remember that in "The India-Rubber Journal" for December 10th, I referred to the somewhat

alarming report issued from official sources in Malaya anent soil poverty and the loss of original fertility. On that occasion I suggested that the matter need not be regarded tragically, and that all that was necessary *must* be done—in the long run. All the same, I did not desire to convey the impression that it was a question which could be regarded with complete complacency. It is a fact—so far as I am aware—that very few experiments on a practical scale have been carried out regarding the effect of fertilisers on growth and health, and already, I believe, some experienced planters are inclined to go back on the idea that clean weeding is quite the blessing that it was imagined to be. I should think it quite likely that in years to come the interplanting of leguminous growths—after the third or fourth year, say—may become common, whatever the results with fertilisers may prove to be.

#### CUTTING DOWN OF SCIENTIFIC STAFFS.

The question dealt with in the preceding paragraph is particularly relevant in regard to the somewhat distressing news which reaches me to the effect that several scientific organisations in the Middle East are being closed down entirely, or are having their staffs rigorously reduced. I do not desire to criticise the private affairs of any individual corporation, nor are these remarks to be read in that sense, but speaking broadly, it is worthy of note that, as a rule, scientific control and research are still regarded by business men as a pure luxury, not as a luxury which has become one of the minor amenities of existence, but a luxury such as the third footman or a box at the opera. A well-trained scientific staff once broken up is difficult to replace, and to take a minor point, the effect on the *moral* of workers who have given some of the most valuable years of their lives to the study of rubber problems in a tropical climate, is likely to be deplorable. I presume that the total cost of all the scientific staffs in the Mid-East does not amount to one farthing per pound of rubber, and even at present low levels the price of the material will vary to that extent in a single day. It may well be that some day a crisis such as has afflicted other tropical industries may develop, and in that event the existence of well-trained and organised scientific staffs may make all the difference. Quite apart from any (at present) unforeseen eventuality, one would think that the steady and persistent fighting of known diseases and the tackling of many important routine and research problems, should afford sufficient scope for far more scientific workers than the industry has hitherto employed. The suggestion made recently in another column, that where private enterprise (owing to the existing economic difficulties) fails, Government should step in, is warmly to be commended.

#### RUBBER "DROPPING BOARDS."

I was recently discussing with a friend—who like myself is mildly interested in poultry and egg production—the *pros* and *cons* of the "dropping-board," when it suddenly and simultaneously occurred to both of us that the disadvantages of the same could be completely overcome, and a new use for rubber found at the same time, by a very simple expedient, namely, that of covering the board with thick low-grade rubber sheet. For the information of those not acquainted with farm-yard matters, I may say that the great objection to the dropping-board is the fact that birds will occasionally drop eggs on to them, with the result that the latter crack and so offer a tempting (if somewhat cannibalistic) meal to the layers. This causes the development of the egg-eating vice, which once acquired becomes positively disastrous. As a result practically all large-scale producers do not use the dropping-board, which otherwise possesses nothing but advantages. It is readily cleaned daily; there is great economy in regard to litter; and the collection of the valuable droppings in a concentrated form



is much facilitated. There must be many thousands of small and large egg and chicken raisers who would welcome a comparatively cheap, durable, economical (in use), sanitary and *safe* dropping-board and I offer them the suggestion (and also to any manufacturer who cares to take the matter up) with my compliments. At any rate, so far as novelty is concerned, I believe the suggestion is ahead of most of those put forward in a recent competition. N. B.—The rubber sheet should be slightly raised at the front (say by means of a lath underneath) to prevent eggs rolling off, and at the back a strip of rubber might be nailed on to the wall of the house, flush with the "board," (Poultry papers, please copy,

### PEACHEY PROCESS Co., Ltd.

#### RESEARCH WORK PROCEEDING.

The annual general meeting of the Peachey Process Company, Ltd, was held at Winchester House, London, E. C., last week.

Sir John P. Hewett, G. C. S. I., K. B. E., C. I. E. (the Chairman), presided. In the course of his remarks he said: The liabilities in the balance sheet include a sum of £62,420 paid up on account of preference and ordinary shares up to date, for which the accounts are presented. The amount owing to sundry creditors, as shown in the balance sheet, is £2,822—that has since been paid off—and at the moment we have practically no payments to make other than our responsibilities for the capital raised. Turning to the assets side of the balance sheet, you will note that the cost of the works at Willesden is there shown as £8,930. A slight addition has been made to the cost of the buildings and equipment since June 30th last, and the total now, with the cost of the land, amounts to £13,281. When the balance sheet was closed we had in hand a sum of £10,895. The repayment of the mortgage and other expenses during the past six months have reduced our balance to a little over £2,000. Your directors have thus been able to float the company, pay all initial expenses, purchase all the patents from the vendors, purchase and equip the works, and pay all administrative expenses for nearly a year and a half by calling up only 12s. 6d. per share, or five-eighths of the capital subscribed.

#### EQUIPMENT OF THE LABORATORIES.

After viewing numerous premises, a suitable building in Willesden was purchased and equipped with appropriate machinery and plant and modern laboratories. By adopting a careful policy in regard to the structural alterations of the building, selecting, purchasing, and installing the necessary plant, etc., your directors were able to carry out this work at a cost of slightly over £13,000, thereby effecting a saving of £6,500 on the estimated cost. The equipment of the laboratories and demonstration works may now be regarded as completed for the purposes both of demonstrating effectively the process and of carrying out research work on the vulcanization of rubber by gases and other agents. The laboratory staff comprises seven assistants, with Mr. Peachey as superintendent. Applications for patents based upon the original British patent have been made in 35 different countries, and patents have already been granted in 15 countries.

#### RESULT OF RESEARCH WORK.

As a result of research work in the company's laboratories, applications have been made for several additional patents, and work on original lines is proceeding with the object of improving existing methods and discovering new applications and important improvements of the process. We are negotiating in respect of licenses for the manufacture and sale of Peachey

solution and for the curing of proofed fabrics. They have advanced to a stage at which there is every prospect of their being brought to a satisfactory conclusion. We have entered into an agreement for the manufacture of Peachey products in Ceylon, the Federated Malay States, and the Straits Settlements. We have been able to enter into an agreement, the details of which it would not be desirable, in the interests of the company, to make public at present, but which ought to ensure the complete and general developments of our process in the United States of America.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

### THE LABOUR QUESTION.

FROM THE "MALAYAN TIN AND RUBBER JOURNAL."

Whenever we read the reports of the various Planters' Associations of Malaya we are irresistibly reminded of the lines, so often quoted "How happy is he born and taught That serveth not another's will! Whose armour is his honest thought And simple truth his utmost skill! This man is freed from servile bands, Of hope to rise or fear to fall; Lord of himself, though not of lands, And having nothing, yet hath all." It is pitiable to look at men who are entrusted with the care of large concerns, who see clearly what is best to promote the greatest good of those whom they serve, and yet are powerless to do anything or to make a single step in any direction, because it may not meet with the approval of their employers who are far away, and do not understand local circumstances. The slump would have come to an end long ago could planters have but restricted output; no one saw that more clearly than they did. There would have been more labour available to-day had they not been compelled to turn their field hands away by the orders of men who, not being in the East, do not appreciate the fact that, this being done, the rejected labour would return to India, whence it is doubtful whether it will ever return. The British soldiery have often been compared to an army of lions led by asses, and the French were in a similar predicament in 1870. It is tragedy when wisdom and skill and foresight are subservient to all sufficingly self-complacent ignorance. Yet that is the position in which the great majority of the rubber planters of Malaya find themselves to-day.

The meeting of the Lower Perak Planters' Association, which took place on Saturday, December 10, once again most painfully brought home this thought. A number of men who knew what was the right and proper thing to do in the circumstances, circumstances which had not been brought about by their own voluntary action, hesitated to pledge themselves to unite to take any decisive course of action, because they did not know whether they would be permitted to embark on it by those other men who have the control and are entirely oblivious of the necessities of the situation. Apparently, both in Government matters and agricultural enterprise there is very little trust in the judgment and good sense of the man on the spot, no matter what the ineffable Mr. Winston Churchill may say to the contrary.

All that planters could do at Teluk Anson at that meeting was to decide on the issue of circulars to directors, *hoc genus omne*, which means more delay, while the labour on which so much depends is steadily flowing back to India in ever increasing volume. The departures during the last four months, Mr. Milne said, had been 12,355, and the arrivals only 1,100. The scramble for the remnant of the labour, which has been so unwisely turned adrift during the past year, is now beginning in earnest. There were 800



applications for 350 hands which had been discharged by the Public Works Department. Something has to be done if the rubber plantations are to go on. Whether that something will ultimately take the form of the multitude of directors and shareholders of rubber companies coming out and arming themselves with tapping knives and buckets and collecting the latex themselves remains to be seen. They are not likely to get the rubber and the fat prices we all hope for in the future, if they do not bestir themselves and do something practical.

The latest suggestion is that a really competent European should be sent to India to augment the efforts of the recruiting kanganies who are now labouring to convince a disillusioned people as to the attractions which Malaya can offer, plus fighting the prejudices of the Anti-Emigrationists of India and the enmity of great landlords and heads of vast industrial concerns who are jealous of every cooly who elects to cross the seas to work on the rubber plantations. The oppositionists are naturally determined to do all that is possible to prevent his embarking. Such an officer as the one proposed must be a man who is possessed of infinite tact, a knowledge of the people, their language and their customs, and he must be able to give assurances that the Indians will be better treated than they have been in the past—not that they have been badly used, except in this wholesale discharge of labour which has been going on during the last twelve months. The recommendations of the Labour Committee will have to be carried out, almost in their entirety, and the planters' representative must be able to assure his desired recruits that they will be fulfilled to the letter.

Meanwhile, the days are passing, and directors and other ignoramuses in power, who do not know what is in their best interests, or how to go to work to secure future returns, have to be convinced—and the recruiting season begins in March! The time for action is rapidly slipping away, while the men who know what should be done, and done promptly at that, are tied to a policy of doing nothing, while circulars are being sent round to be leisurely considered by directorates, who imagine that they have plenty of time to do what should be done quickly if any permanent good to the rubber industry of Malaya is to accrue from it.

### SHOT HOLE BORER.

At the meeting of the Estates Products Committee (Ceylon), Mr. F. P. Jepson made a statement on the present prevalence of shot hole borer of tea.

The meeting considered that it was necessary to give its attention to the spread of the pest in new areas, notably in the Badulla and Balangoda districts.

Mr. Jepson's statement was as follows:—

At a recent meeting of the Estates Products Committee the opinion was expressed that shot hole borer was on the increase, and was certainly spreading to higher elevations. As this opinion was contrary to the view of the Entomological Division of Department of Agriculture, it was suggested by the Committee that all borer-infested estates should be circularised with a request for information on this point. Accordingly circular letter cards were despatched to all infested estates, numbering 821, situated in 46 planting districts. Of this number, 603 cards were returned equal to 73·4 per cent of the total number sent out.

Opinions were invited on three points, firstly, regarding the present prevalence of borer, or intensity of attack, on estates where borer had been established for many years as compared with the condition prevailing five

years ago, secondly, whether borer was spreading to portions of the estate which had not previously been attacked, and thirdly, whether borer was spreading in the district in which the estate was situated.

The replies received have been carefully examined and classified, and may be briefly summarised as follows :—

(1) Eight districts consider borer to be more prevalent on estates and 32 the contrary, opinions being divided in five districts, and one district offering no information. Ten districts consider borer to be spreading on estates and 32 the contrary, opinions being equal in four districts. Borer is considered to be spreading in ten districts, while this is considered not to be the case in 29 districts, opinions being equal in four districts and the remaining one offering no opinion on the matter.

(2) Judging from the replies received, opinions are in favour of borer being more prevalent on estates in Knuckles, Kotmalie, and Medamahanuwara, to be extending its area of attack on estates in Haputale, Knuckles, Madulsima, Medamahanuwara, Ratnapura and Wattegama and Panwila, and to be spreading in the following districts :—Badulla, Haputale, Knuckles, Kotmale, Medamahanuwara and Wattegama and Panwila. The most emphatic opinions are in the case of Badulla, where borer is decidedly spreading in the district, Haputale, where it is spreading both on estates and in these districts, and Knuckles and Medamahanuwara, where it is more prevalent, and spreading on estates and in these two districts.

(3) It is interesting to record that 74 opinions were volunteered in regard to the connection between improved cultivation and reduced borer attack, and it is regretted that the scope of the circular was not extended to invite opinions on this matter.

(4) It is concluded, therefore, that the general statement made at a meeting of the Estates Products Committee on September 8th, 1921, to the effect that borer was on the increase, and was certainly spreading to higher elevations is not borne out by the replies received to this circular.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

Sir,—With reference to enclosed cutting from the "Malay Mail" does the Medical Examination, as applies to candidates for admission to the S. P. M. R., differ from that used in the F. M. S. ?

There are several men in the district where I live who have not joined the S. P. M. R. (although they would be a great asset) as they are under the impression that by doing so they would render themselves ineligible for the wound pensions they now receive, and inasmuch as both the Volunteer Force in the F. M. S. and the Auxiliary Force in India are purely voluntary (at present), it seems to me that the same medical examination should be applied in both cases.

It is possible that enrolment in the S. P. M. R. does not render one ineligible for wound pension, and, if this is the case we shall be able to increase our numbers, but some definite official ruling is necessary.

Yours, &c., FAIR PLAY.

ENCLOSURE.

It is notified for general information that the Medical Examination prescribed for fitness for service in the Malay States Volunteer Regiment does not affect the eligibility of a Volunteer, who may be drawing a wound or other pension, to continue to draw such pension. Medical categories such as were followed in the Regular Forces during the War are not applied to candidates for admission into Volunteer Forces.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 20th January, 1922.

129s./- per cwt. Nominal.

## CEYLON TEA IN 1921.

The *Times of Ceylon* published last week an interesting review of the tea industry in Ceylon during the year just passed, which is alluded to as one of the most remarkable years in the history of the industry in the island, and in striking contrast to 1920. Twelve months ago the industry was still in the throes of a great crisis. Exchange, particularly, which was at one time as high as 2s. 10d. to the rupee, had been a serious factor, and the alarming accumulation of stocks in London made the outlook as black as one could possibly imagine. The slump in prices was the greatest since 1900-01, but the year will probably be remembered more on account of the poor quality of tea received from practically every district, than because of any other one factor.

The remarkable point about the position of the tea industry to-day is what became of those surplus millions of rubbish which we heard so much about a year ago. At the end of 1920, it was estimated that the stocks of tea in Great Britain exceeded 227 million lbs., the normal stock being about 90 millions, and although admittedly much of this stock was very poor stuff placed on the market as the result of Government purchases at a flat rate the mere existence of such a vast quantity of so called "Tea" represented a trump card in the hands of buyers. Nowadays, one hears little or nothing of these stocks, and the steadily increasing demand for tea would apparently indicate that they have been disposed of once and for all.

The removal of these stocks and the policy of fine plucking have, within a year, completely revolutionized the position. Our contemporary remarks that the fine plucking was largely forced on planters by the extraordinary weather conditions which prevailed in Ceylon during 1921. The drought, coupled with the effect of the general cessation of manuring during 1920 kept down the flushes and made anything but very fine plucking impossible. The consequent shortage of crop sent down to Colombo began to have its effect, and prices soared to an extent which counterbalanced the shortage. How successful the year was in this respect may be judged from the fact that the average price secured during the whole of 1921 was 71'18 cents per lb., as compared with 42'78 cents in 1920, 55'17 cents in 1919, and 52'5 cents in 1918. The average in 1913, the last complete pre-war year was 46'75 cents. High grown broken pekoe and B. O. P. averaged as much as Rs. 1-30 at early April sales, and this price was only just missed again in July.

It will thus be seen that good has come out of evil in a remarkable manner, and particularly are we interested in the question of manuring to which reference has been made. Most estates, we read, abandoned manuring in 1920. There can be little doubt that in earlier years over-manuring had been too common a fault; the growth of the bushes was unduly forced, and stalky teas were the result. It was doubtless, partly because of the outcry against stalk, though mainly, of course, on the ground of economy, that manuring was abandoned in 1920. Thanks to this policy and to the increased attention paid to manufacture, stalk was rapidly eliminated. The weaker condition of the bushes, however, consequent upon the reduction of manuring, laid them open to serious attacks of red rust, and the present tendency is thus to seek a happy medium, namely to manure sufficiently to strengthen the bushes, but not so heavily as to force the growth too rapidly and thus produce coarse leaf.

There is a lesson in all this for tea planters, wherever they may be, and not the least satisfactory conclusion is that planters in Southern India have learned it. One has only to study the home market reports and brokers' circulars to realise how highly South Indian teas have risen in the estimation of home buyers. Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co., in their report for 1920—21 said: "It is very certain that, if the Ceylon Tea trade does not flourish, it will not be owing to lack of enterprise or of energy on the part of producers, who seem to be more alive to world conditions than their compatriots in India."

We are confident that this slur no longer applies to Southern India if indeed it was ever justified even during the period under review. That we were not producing of our best in 1920 is probably true enough, but that we have not read the signs of the times equally as well as our Ceylon compatriots is an assertion that will not bear investigation in the light of current market prices which are being obtained for South Indian teas.



## THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 3 OF 1922. (15—21 JANUARY.)

Mr. Anstead was at head-quarters during the week. He leaves for Coorg on 25th to pay a short visit of inspection to the Coffee Experiment Station, and is expected to return about the end of the month.

2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (8—14 JANUARY.)—At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, the weather was cloudy during the week, but there was no rain. Chop digging is proceeding, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres were completed during the week. Stripping of crop was completed on  $3\frac{3}{4}$  acres, yielding 1,503½ lbs. One pound of 'Jackson's Hybrid' seed was received from Mr. A. H. Jackson of Dubarri, and was sown in the Station nursery on 10th to raise supplies.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, there was one light shower of 0·22 inches during the week, but hot weather conditions are setting in, and the cover crops are beginning to dry up and die. 383 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 4·9 acres, and a second tipping was done in Plots 10 and 11 pruned in September. The Mosquito Blight attack is not severe on the China plots, and is being controlled by catching. Work of terracing side drains was continued.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, there was no rain during the week. With the exception of a small experiment being carried out for the Rubber Mycologist, tapping has been stopped, and the tapped area of bark coated with a mixture of tar and tallow (2 : 1) as a preservative. The rain received last week has stimulated the growth of the *Tephrosia* with which the Station is now sown down.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, showers amounting to 0·18 inches fell during the week. Tapping has been stopped, and dead wood is being removed from the trees and burned, and a girth census is being made. During the slack season, the Farm Manager is taking the opportunity to learn tea making at a neighbouring factory by the kindness of the Manager.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*

21—i—22.

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA,

FROM 1ST APRIL 1921 TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

From.	To:—Other Ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Other Places in Asia.	America	Australia.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras ...	1,760	44,317	145,218	3,350	2,074	469	11,141
Calicut ...	91,956	484,652	2,598,035	2,200	...	...	1,480
Cochin ...	5,000	27,555	6,573,626	64,196	...	...	..
Tellicherry ...	...	...	240,325	178	...	...	...
Tuticorin ...	...	2,500,155	7,673,173	...	500	...	...
Minor Ports ...	...	24,602	...	...	750	...	...
Total...	98,716	3,081,281	17,230,377	69,924	3,324	469	12,621

Grand Total Exports... 20,496,712 lbs.



## LIQUID MANURE.

The following are extracts from a leaflet issued by the Home Board of Agriculture and Fisheries last year on this subject :—

Suggestions for the construction of liquid manure tanks have recently been published by the Board, and the object of the present leaflet is to give a few notes as to the value and use of liquid manure.

**VALUE.**—The urine of animals contains nearly all the potash, and a great deal of the nitrogen which passes through their bodies. It contains only a small amount of the phosphate, the bulk of this being voided with the dung. Further, it contains these important plant-foods not in solid form, but in solution, ready for the immediate use of the plant. Moreover, owing to fermentation and drainage, the loss from manure kept in the ordinary way is a very serious item. By the use of simple appliances and by care, however, liquid manure can be kept without losing much of its manurial value. An average sample, undiluted, should contain up to '2 per cent. of nitrogen and '46 per cent. of potash, and a thousand gallons are equal in value, roughly speaking, to about 3 cwt. of kainit and 100 lb. of sulphate of ammonia. At pre-war rates the value would be about 4s. 6d. per ton (224 gal.)—at present rates considerably more. Irish experiments have proved that liquid manure applied at the rate of 16 tons per acre to hay land, gives rather better results than the same weight of farmyard manure, or than 1 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. superphosphate, and 2 cwt. kainit. Fertilisers and feeding stuffs are still expensive, and every effort should be made to save money on the former by using the manurial residues of the latter to their fullest extent. The liquid manure should, therefore, certainly not be allowed to run to waste. This applies not only to the urine, but to the drainage from dungsteads, yards, &c.; this, though not so valuable, should also be collected and run into the tank.

**REASONS WHY LIQUID MANURE HAS NOT BEEN MUCH USED.**—If liquid manure is so valuable, why has its use been comparatively neglected? The answer to this question depends on several factors :—

- (1) "It is inconvenient to have to empty the tank regularly." It has been found, however, that one man, one horse and one boy with a liquid manure cart, can cover about four-fifths of an acre per day at a rate of 1,500 gal. per acre. This quantity would represent a month's supply, undiluted, from about 40 head of cattle and horses. Even if liberally diluted, its distribution would not require more than a couple of days.
- (2) "The storing of liquid manure has been regarded as insanitary." With a properly constructed tank, however, this objection is entirely removed.
- (3) "It is objectionable to handle"—but with proper distributing apparatus very little "handling" is required.
- (4) "It is liable to 'burn' vegetation." This is true if the liquid is applied too strong, but a little experience will soon show how much water should be used to dilute it.
- (5) "Carts for distributing liquid manure are expensive, and if of iron are likely to corrode." Carts with iron fittings are expensive, and the iron requires careful attention, but for practical purposes a wooden puncheon or barrel fixed on to a bogey is equally effective, distribution being obtained by means of a wooden trough with holes. This trough can be left in the field,

and fixed again when the cart returns. The length of the trough is generally a little more than the width between the wheels of the cart.

- (6) "Its value has not been sufficiently appreciated, and its treatment not sufficiently understood." This is probably the true reason for the neglect of liquid manure.

**METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION.**—In some, but not many cases, distribution by irrigation may be possible. In such cases, in order to ensure its reaching all the ground, the liquid manure should be well diluted before being run over the land. For general use, a barrel on the body of a cart, as suggested above, with a perforated trough, or a flat semi-circular fan divided with battens radiating from a box in the centre, into which the tap of the barrel delivers, will probably be found the most suitable arrangement. The tap will regulate the rate of distribution. A permanent system of pipes will only pay under a system of intensive culture.

**DILUTION.**—When applied too strong to grass or growing crops, liquid manure is apt to "burn." No definite rule can be given as to the exact amount of water that should be added, as the strength of the liquid depends both on the nature of the food of the stock and on the amount of water other than urine that runs into the tank. While it is advisable, for economy of storage, to allow as little water as possible to enter the tank, the water used in washing down a cow-shed will contain a certain amount of manurial ingredients, and may, unless it makes it necessary to empty the tank too often, be allowed to run in. In this case there will be little danger of "burning"; otherwise it will be well to experiment, before applying the manure. If it is found to burn, then it will be necessary to add water. It is also advisable not to apply it to growing crops in dry weather, to avoid "burning" while application in wet weather ensures speedier mixing with the soil. In the case of grass land the manure should be applied preferably when the grass is wet with dew or rain. When applied to uncropped land, no dilution is necessary.

**RATE OF APPLICATION.**—The rate of application will depend both on the strength of the liquid, and on the number of applications to be given in a season. If it be borne in mind that 1,000 gallons of average undiluted liquid manure contain nitrogen equivalent to 100 lb. of sulphate of ammonia, it will be easy to regulate the amount.

**REMARKS.**—There are two main points to be remembered. First that the more liquid manure is kept from the air, the better does it keep its value. No air must reach it through the top of the tank or through the covering of manholes. The second point is that no solid manure must accompany the liquid into the tank. The presence of solid manure, whether dung or straw, will tend to set up fermentation, and fermentation means loss. Another advantage gained by keeping the liquid free from solid manure is the greater ease with which it can be spread, as solid matter tends to block the distribution holes. To clean these it may be necessary to have a boy walking behind the cart. Where solid matter is allowed to get into the tank, it is advisable to stir the liquid before pumping so as to bring as much of the sediment as possible into the cart, and thus save the very dirty work of clearing out the tank with buckets—but with a proper tank there should be very little sediment.



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THE DISEASES OF RUBBER.

## I

**Die-Back of Young Hevea.**

We have received from the Director of Agriculture the monthly reports for November and December, 1921, of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Planting Districts) and of the Rubber Mycologist.

Mr. Anstead's reports deal mainly with his tour in the South, and as his weekly reports while on tour were published periodically in the *Chronicle*, there is not in these monthly reports very much that would be new to our readers. They deal mainly with green dressings, and the work being carried on at the Experimental Stations which appear all of them to be making considerable progress. In his November report he alludes to a young rubber clearing which he inspected with the Rubber Mycologist and which had been attacked last monsoon by *Phytophthora* at the tips of the shoots causing them to die-back for a foot or more in some cases. As may be expected in his report, Mr. Asbplant deals more fully with this disease, under the heading of "Die-Back in Young Hevea." He says:—

During the last monsoon, the young rubber on several estates has been experiencing a sort of die-back. The die-back is confined to the greener portions of the shoot. A curious feature of the disease is the manner in which its progress is arrested at the nodes. Whatever the area involved the disease is always arrested temporarily, at any rate, at the nodes. Usually, in the first stage only the terminal internode is affected, though here and there the die-back extends to two or three internodes.

Apart from the set back to growth caused by the disease the loss of its apical bud always tends to produce an unbalanced tree, since the shoots which arise below the point of injury are generally overcrowded and come out at such an angle to the stem that they are bound to be split away by wind within a year or two.

While this disease has been referred to as "Die-Back" the symptoms are quite different from the die-back caused by *Diplodia*. The symptoms are, in fact, more akin to the die-back exhibited by the branches of old rubber trees in Southern India, and which has been shown by Mr. Macrae to be due to *Phytophthora Meadii*.

Microscopical examination of numbers of specimens demonstrated the presence in the cells abutting on the healthy tissues of a fungus, which in form and position resembles that found in twigs affected by *Phytophthora Meadii*, and although the nature of the parasite has not been determined, there are good reasons for suspecting *Phytophthora Meadii*. If this is the fungus involved, one would expect, for instance, to find that the disease is more evident on those portions of the young clearing abutting on old rubber.

This is exactly what one does find. A count which was made on one estate showed the side nearest the mature rubber to contain 57% Die-Back as against 33% on the distal side. On the other estates visited, no count was taken, but the preponderance of the disease on the portions of the clearing adjacent to the old rubber was very marked.

As it is suspected that the fungus inhabiting the affected twigs may hibernate over the dry season in the tissues as *P. Meadii* has been shown by Macrae to do in the twigs of mature rubber, it was considered advisable to recommend the removal of all affected shoots at a point  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch below the diseased zone. Spraying also may be necessary to prevent further outbreaks of the disease during the next monsoon. In order to avert the formation of unshapely tree, the removal of all new branches which are crowded within less than 3 inches of one another at the apex (save one the strongest and best which is left to become the main shoot) is also advisable. As this disease is most disastrous on unbranched trees which have only one growing point, the adoption of leaf pruning has been further recommended. The effect of this is to induce the trees to throw out branches. When a tree has a number of well distributed branches, the loss of the apical bud will not be nearly as damaging to the growth or shape of the tree.

In order to see whether the disease is active in the twigs during the dry weather, and also to discover whether there is any possibility of the fungus hibernating over in the tissues until next monsoon, a number of trees have been marked at the zone at present affected, and will be kept under observation.

## II

### Brown Bast.

In view of the recent issue of Sanderson and Sutcliffe's book "Brown Bast," which was reviewed in the *Chronicle* last week, the following extract from Mr. Asnplant's report is of particular interest. The Mycologist says:—

In continuation of an experiment in Brown Bast treatment which was commenced on Kadamankulam Estate, about 18 months ago, a number of trees which were formerly treated by the method of scraping off the diseased tissue and tarring the exposed part were re-examined with the object of determining the success or otherwise of the measure. The treatment of the trees in question was carried out with a thoroughness which it would be impossible to excel, and if there is any possibility of getting rid of the disease by the method described, one would have expected this experiment to have succeeded.

Contrary to the statements frequently made concerning the efficacy of the scraping method, the examination showed 98% of the trees to still contain traces of Brown Bast, despite the unusual care bestowed on the treatment and the fact that most trees had been twice treated. A good deal of improvement had been brought about, however, and there were indications that the treatment had not been in vain, for although the affection had not been completely got rid of, the little disease remaining in 75% of the trees was of so superficial a character that it may be possible to eliminate it by a repetition of the previous treatment. Further point of interest was the highly laticiferous character of the new tissues formed subsequent to scraping. Latex freely flowed on wounding, and in a large percentage of cases, these new tissues seemed to be capable of yielding as much if not more latex than was obtained prior to the tree becoming diseased. Without trial tappings it is of course impossible to say whether these laticiferous properties will be maintained.



With regard to the remaining 25% of the treated trees most of these were still deeply affected by Brown Bast, and in none of them was there sufficient latex to justify tapping later on.

### III.

#### **Patch Canker.**

Finally, Mr. Ashplant deals with his continued investigations regarding Patch Canker, as follows:—

Investigations into the character of the Brown layer which is frequently found imbedded in living and apparently healthy tissue behind healed Patch Canker wounds have been continued. It was thought at first that this discoloured tissue might possibly contain the Patch Canker fungus in a resting form, but no organism was discovered to be present in any of the samples examined.

Structurally, the Brown layer is made up of stone cells and ordinary cortical cells which, through the deposition of tannins and other substances have taken on the naked-eye appearance of bark, and the layer is evidently a protective effort on the part of the tree evoked by the stimulus of the invading parasite. This layer appears very commonly as an after-effect of Patch Canker disease in Southern India, and is, in all cases, associated with superficial attacks of disease.

In Malaya and the D. E. I. where Patch Canker is far less prevalent the few cases met with are usually deep seated, and the disease is not often arrested until the tissues have been destroyed right to the cambium. Light attacks which are limited to the outer cortex do not often occur.

The occurrence of so high a proportion of superficial attacks in Southern India is probably connected with the peculiar climatic conditions. What apparently happens is somewhat as follows:—Invasion of the cells by the Patch Canker fungus leads in all cases to the formation of a corky protective tissue. Early in the monsoon when the conditions are favourable to the fungus all the tissues external to the corky layer are destroyed, and in numbers of cases the fungus penetrates right to the cambium causing an open wound. Towards the end of the monsoon the course of the attack is modified by climatic changes. The entry of the parasite leads to the production of a corky layer as usual, but owing to the sharp change from excessively wet to excessively dry weather, with daily hot land winds the development of the fungus within the tissues is soon inhibited. Where it has penetrated almost to the corky layer, the tissues external to this dry up and fall off as a scale. In certain cases, however, the disease will have been arrested before much of the tissue between the outer bark and the abnormal bark like plate has been affected, and in these cases, only the thin layer actually diseased will scale off.

Although the absence of any organism in the suberized layer renders ones fears of further trouble from Patch Canker from this source groundless, there is some reason to suspect that the presence of the abnormality in question may set up physiological disturbances favourable to the development of that other disease of Hevea - Brown Bast. It is unquestionable that Brown Bast does occasionally follow upon an attack of Patch Canker.

In order to ascertain whether there is any danger in leaving the internal corky tissue unexcised, one or two trees which exhibit the symptoms described have been marked for future observation.

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## MODERN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

In the sphere of natural science the most outstanding feature of agricultural research in recent years has been the introduction of physics and mathematics; the former in connexion with chemical and physiological problems, the latter in regard to methods of reasoning, including the statistical examination of approximate results. In other words, there has occurred an extension in the breadth of outlook in agricultural science, greater accuracy, and a breaking down of the arbitrary lines of demarcation which formerly existed between the mathematical sciences and biology. The result is that old problems are now being approached from entirely new points of view, and fresh knowledge is being secured which would never have been gained by means of the approximate and conservative methods that were in vogue for so long. How has this come about? It has come through an evolutionary process that has led to the recognition, especially in the United States of America, that the problems of agriculture are so varied and abstruse that they can only be solved by original work on the part of highly trained men in every department of science. And the modern outlook is even wider; for it is recognised that many problems, in fact most, can only be solved by collaboration between different experts. The modern tendency indeed indicates that there may come a time when students will be trained to attack a problem rather than to gain a degree, for many of the greatest agricultural problems are most inconsiderate, and do not fit in at all well with the curricula of the Universities and Colleges. But it is not intended to imply that education does or should suffer at the expense of specialization. Education and research are inter-dependent. Nevertheless they work differently, for during education the mind stretches in a horizontal direction, understanding the world in a general way and the true relationship and relative proportions of things; in research the mind dives downwards, guided by original methods and ideas into very profound depths. Both kinds of mental activity are essential, not only for the solution of agricultural problems, but also for general agricultural progress.

Perhaps the biggest advances in recent years have been made in connexion with soil science, physiology and genetics. And incidentally the phrase 'soil science' is an interesting indication of the fact that the arbitrary 'subject' boundaries have dissolved. The study of the soil originally was purely chemical, chiefly confined to inorganic analysis. Now the study of the soil involves organic chemistry, physical chemistry, bacteriology, physics, and a number of more specialized studies. The soil is regarded as being organically connected with the plant that grows in it, so



that investigators working on soil science are constantly brought into touch with plant ecology, and therefore have to collaborate with the botanist. Agricultural science generally is rapidly assuming a status undreamt of fifty years ago, and is fast taking its place beside Engineering (including all branches). Genetics, or plant and animal breeding, demands for its study a knowledge of mathematics, physiology or the study of function, involves chemistry and physics, and, like genetics, is making tremendous advances. Yet the average man in the street still thinks of agricultural science in terms of entomology, which is as yet the least scientific branch of all.

Then there has also been progress and greater precision on the economic side. Agricultural economic problems are being studied statistically, and improved systems of account keeping on the 'costing' principle are being suggested and employed. Legislation is being utilized to an enormous extent for the control of pests and diseases, and even their eradication (to wit the pink bollworm campaign in the United States). Again, measures designed to meet the contingency of 'fluctuations' in the world's market for agricultural produce are receiving attention, especially in regard to credit facilities; new and permanent markets are being secured by means of fiscal policies. The great advances in agricultural co-operation in recent years are too well known to need description.

Gratifying as all this advancement is, those who are responsible, especially in respect of natural science, expect their work to be generally appreciated and, as far as possible, applied. In the tropics there is a good deal of apathy as regards research. It takes a long time for new ideas to become firmly fixed in the popular mind. That is because the large majority of those who work the land are not educated along the right lines, and have not developed an enquiring and critical outlook in respect of scientific research. Not that the practical agriculturist will not listen. It is quite astonishing how gullible and easily taken in shrewd business men often are when it comes to the results of scientific research. If they were as careless as to what they swallowed in the form of alimentary food they would die of indigestion or poisoning; if they were as careless in their business they would go bankrupt. Yet, again, others are obstinate and dogmatic, refusing to accept ideas that are sound in place of ones for which they have a kind of superstitious affection.

In the tropics we know far more than we can apply; and it is time that the education of the rising planter be taken seriously in hand. It is

necessary that he be educated in such a way that he can follow the trend of agricultural research, so that he can ask himself what are the latest ideas concerning his soil or his particular crop, and to what extent these ideas may be applied to his particular conditions. He should be as open-minded, progressive, anxious and yet as critical in receiving results, as the research worker is in securing them. What the Americans call extension work would help to bridge the gap at present existing, but extension work costs a great deal of money, and in any case will not suffice in the tropics. Agriculturists in the tropics suffer from isolation, and, under isolation, education is even more necessary than it is under those conditions of closer contact and enlightenment that prevail in the development and developing countries of the north, Agricultural education in the tropics is almost a research problem in itself, and its solution is largely bound up in agricultural colleges with collateral work amongst societies, and in the secondary and elementary schools. —(*Agricultural News*).

## THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

(INCORPORATED.)

The Rubber Growers' Association sends the following letter under date, 30th December, 1921, to all producers of plantation rubber :—

### Restriction of Output.

Dear Sirs,—With reference to the circular, dated 29th November, 1921, advocating a continuance during the first six months of 1922 of their scheme of voluntary restriction of output, the Council have to report that the required minimum of assents has not been received.

The total area in bearing owned or controlled by the 531 Producer Members of the Association is estimated at **862,000 acres**, of which **788,000 acres** are controlled in Europe, and **74,000 acres** are controlled in the East.

Forms of Assent have been received from

Members domiciled in Europe controlling 460,000 bearing acres.

Cabled advice has been received from

Malaya that the producing area of Local

members assenting to the restriction

scheme is	...	...	...	13,000	„	„
				<u>473,000</u>		

which represents 55% of the total.



Assents have also been received from non-Members in respect of 25,000 bearing acres. Letters received from other members show that 30,000 bearing acres will conform to the scheme without formal assent being given, whilst a further 90,000 bearing acres will be under substantial restriction. No reply in writing has been received from the owners of 200,000 acres controlled in Europe, but from enquiries made personally, it is clear that restriction will be carried out by most of these.

Whilst the Council regret that their scheme thus cannot be made binding, it is evident that the necessity for continuing to restrict output is appreciated by a large proportion of the members of this Association, and Council have no doubt that this policy will be continued on an independent voluntary basis.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK K. SMITH,  
Secretary.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

Bedaguli,  
Chamrajnagar, Mysore Dt.  
18-1-1922.

### Re. Coffee Hybrids.

Sir,—I see Mr. P. M. Wilkins says he is going to try Kent's Arabica, personally I have the highest opinion of this Coffee. My Manager planted about 1½ acres in August 1920, seventeen months ago, the plants are now, many of them 3 ft—3ft.6" high, and primaries two foot long with bold blossom spike on them. They are planted in cleared jungle land with no manure. I have seen others even bigger in other *totes*, but I have never seen any coffee, not even the coarse hybrids that could come near them in growth.

I think Mr. L. P. Kent has done the coffee planters a great service in pronouncing the Kent's Arabica, and I believe all those who have tried it will agree with me.

Yours faithfully,  
H. J. L. FREMLIN.

**Coffee Hybrids.**

## II.

SIR,—As Mr. Wilkins suggests in his letter in the P. C. of 7th of January issue, that those who have invested in the new Hybrids should give our experiences with them. I give my results : I planted *very late* in the season of 1920 (as my ground was not ready) a new clearing (grassy-scrub land) of 4 acres with Jackson's Hybrid, bed plants only. As a result of the late planting a good number of the plants went out, but these were replaced during June 1921 with big nursery plants kept over from the 1920 nursery, and I now have a fine clearing, with the majority of the plants 2'—2½' ft. high, with many pairs of primaries. The trees are very sturdy, a healthy dark green, covered with spike for blossoming during the coming season. The plants have had no manure, and show no sign of needing it.

*Kent's Arabica.* I planted up and supplied an abandoned coffee area under Para and Ceara shade in 1919 with this seed (bed plants only), and though Ceara shade is known to be very bad for Coffee, and the planting was very badly done, as I was absent in England at the time, no one could wish for better planters, where they survived the bad planting, for the trees, many of which have been topped at 3½ ft. during the last cold weather, have a spread 4—5 ft., are most noticeably healthy among the other Coffee, and are covered with spike to the entire length of the primaries. If it had not been for the dense shade and bad planting, the trees would have borne last season undoubtedly.

These two hybrids have been planted under admittedly adverse conditions, and the result is most satisfactory and goes to prove what an excellent thing it is to plant up all vacancies with these new varieties, which come on so well in spite of dense shade or in open grassy lands.

(Signed) M. Cayley,  
Shevaroy's.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

*Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.*

VOL. XVII. No. 5.]

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 27th January, 1922.

129s./ per cwt. Nominal.

## INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS.

The Honorary Secretary of the Inter-District Sports Committee issues invitations this week to District Associations to enter the U. P. A. S. I. Tennis Tournament for 1922.

Last year it will be remembered there were ten entries in all (9 Associations and the U. P. A. S. I. team), and the Tournament generally speaking was a complete success. It was unfortunate that at the last moment some Associations were unable to raise teams, and were, therefore, obliged to scratch. In spite of this the fair number of matches showed some good tennis and very keen competition. The finals at Coimbatore were, particularly, a hard fought match.

The Honorary Secretary in his circular invites suggestions from the various Associations regarding the rules, etc., under which this tournament is being run. We would like to emphasize this point; if only planters would write to us when they notice some discrepancy which to their minds needs remedying, it would lead to an exchange of views of which the Sports Committee we are certain would be quick to take advantage. Unless this is done, it seems rather unfair to criticise after the event or to withhold entries because of some disagreement with the rules, fancied or otherwise. The closing date for entries is Monday, 13th March, and we hope to publish details of the draw in our issue of 18th March. There is, therefore, ample time for any obscure points to be cleared up and to assist would-be entrants we publish this week, the rules, complete with amendments, under which the games are now played.

We appeal to all last year's entrants to come forward again this year—the subscription for them is only Rs. 10, and to endeavour this year to raise a team. It is probable that the limit for the first round will be fixed at 30th April as was the case last year, or possibly a week later, so that sufficient time is given by this preliminary announcement for proper arrangements to be made. Last year there were five Associations which failed to enter. Entrance this year will, of course, cost them the same entrance fee of Rs. 100 as the others paid. We hope this will not deter them, and that they will, by entering, make this year's tournament a complete success.

## THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 4 OF 1922. (22—28 JANUARY.)

1. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left Coimbatore on 25th, and arrived at Sidapur on 26th to inspect the Coffee Experiment Station. Mr. Anstead returns to headquarters on 31st, and leaves for Pusa to attend the Meeting of the Board of Agriculture in India on the evening of 8th February.

2. AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND.—At a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society on November 15th, Sir R. Henry Rew delivered his second presidential address, taking as his subject, "The Progress of Agriculture." He pointed out that the total land area of Great Britain is now  $56\frac{3}{4}$  million acres, and of the  $52\frac{3}{4}$  million acres capable of production about 90% is so utilised in a greater or less degree. This area is not capable of any material extension. The proportion of arable land was 58% in 1869—78, and is now 48%, but the prevalent belief that the output of British agriculture has declined overlooks the fact that the smaller arable area may, if devoted to other crops, produce a greater amount of food than the larger. By substituting potatoes for wheat for instance, one-fifth the area would give about as much food. Fruit and vegetables have also largely replaced farm crops, while the extension of cultivation under glass has resulted in a great increase of output per acre. As regards livestock, comparing the ten years 1869—78 with 1912—21, there has been a net gain of above 750,000 beasts. There has also been a progressive and substantial increase in milk production during the past fifty years, the milking herd having increased by 32%, while the yield per cow has also been greatly increased. At the outbreak of war a larger quantity of food was being produced than at any previous period. During the war there was a set back in food production, the amount of cereal food



being increased, but other kinds of food were markedly reduced. Whether the prewar standard of total output has been regained is regarded as doubtful, but such facts as are accessible point to the conclusion that the output of food has been increased. Indeed the agricultural land of the country is capable of producing more food, for on a large proportion of it the output is undoubtedly lamentably deficient. (Nature. 24.xi.21).

3. LEECHES.—The following appeared in the Times Weekly Edition of 6th January. Doctors are reported to be reviving the use of the leech, which figured so largely among old therapeutic measures. There are not now enough leeches on the market to supply the demand, which is apparently growing, since some physicians seem to have found that few better methods of relieving inflammatory areas exist than the application of these creatures. The leech belongs to the blood letting days. Its modern use, however, is probably more as a counter-irritant than as a remover of blood. It is a kind of animated mustard plaster and surgeon's knife combined, and its efforts, or so those who believe in it declare, result in a marked relief of tension, and a rapid subsidence of inflammatory mischief. The country most faithful to the leech is the United States, where it is still much used, but this country is becoming a better buyer. An authority of wide experience has declared that there has been a "small boom" just recently, and that some chemists could easily dispose of double the number they are able to buy. This difficulty of supply is largely due to the fact that the old leech "farms" have disappeared. These farms had ponds into which old horses were made to walk at stated intervals in order to feed the "stock." Now leeches are fished for and exported in baskets from Turkey and other areas. Paris has one leech farm, with sales of about 130,000 per month.

Anamallais, please note. This might prove a welcome subsidiary industry!

4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (15—21 JANUARY.)—At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, fine cold weather continued, and stipping was proceeded with, 592 lbs. of cherry being obtained from 1'32 acres. Chop digging was done over 1½ acres which completes this work, and supplies in 2½ acres have been mulched to preserve the moisture about their roots during the hot weather. The Hybrid Plots are being weeded round the plants, and the latter mulched for the same reason. This work has been finished in Kent's Arabica Plot, and begun in Jackson's Hybrid Plot. The showers received last week have brought out a certain amount of blossom, but it is hoped that not much harm has been done as long as no rain falls during February.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, dry hot weather was experienced, and this is having a deleterious effect on the flush and causing the green dressing crops to dry up. There is no doubt that the only way to establish these crops is to get them growing with the early rains. 367 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 3½ acres, a yield of 105 lbs. per acre. The Station labour during this slack season is being used for terracing drains, and 1,059 running feet were attended to during the week.

At the *Rubber Experiment Stations*, hot weather conditions prevail, and the trees are wintering. At Tenmalai a girth census is being made.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE  
TARVELLERS' BUNGALOW, PEERMADE, ON SATURDAY THE 7TH  
JANUARY, 1922, AT 10 A. M.

PRESENT.—Mr. E. C. Sylvester (Chairman), Messrs. J. F. Fraser, A. B. Gall, W. A. J. Milner, C. S. N. Ricketts, J. Wedderspoon, H. C. Westaway, J. M. Wilkie, R. Tait and A. R. St. George (Honorary Secretary).

VISITORS.—Messrs. W. H. G. Leahy, A. H. Mead, K. P. Roissier, K. C. Thomas, Assistant Engineer, and the Section Officer, P. W. D.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting and the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 15th December, 1921, were taken as read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.—(1) Read letter from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., *re Planters' Chronicle* and Labour Division, (2) Read letter from Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., giving opinion of Associations' Solicitors as to the liability of members for subscriptions, (3) Read letter from Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., *re Acreage* declaration, 1922-23, (4) Read letter from Secretary, UPASI, *re* amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, (5) Read letter from Secretary, UPASI *re* Tuticorin Harbour Scheme, (6) Read letter from Secretary, UPASI *re* declaration of acreages, (7) Read letter from Secretary, UPASI *re* paying off of Moplah coolies, also from First Class Magistrate, Peermade *re* the same, (8) Read letter from Managing Editor, *P. C.*, *re* Chronicle address list, (9) Read letter from Superintendent, Labour Department, Palamcottah *re* register of Kanganies, (10) Read letter from Mr. W. A. J. Milner *re* Labour Department Defaulters' register, (11) Read letter from the Labour Superintendent, Palamcottah *re* Plucking rates.

After some discussion, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Milner and seconded by Mr. Westaway, was passed: "That in view of the fact stated in the letter from the Labour Superintendent, Palamcottah, this Association would again approach the South Indian Association in London suggesting that the rate of Plucking pay be increased by 16½%." Carried.

Mr. Roissier then read some correspondence *re* Peermade-Devicoolam Road. It was decided to take this up as an Association matter, and the Honorary Secretary, after a consultation with Mr. Roissier, was instructed to write to the Chief Engineer, sending a copy to the British Resident.

3. REPORT OF DELEGATE TO UPASI GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING.—This was read, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. E. C. Sylvester for attending. Mr. Sylvester promised to attend the next Meeting.

4. INSTRUCTIONS TO SRI-MULAM DELEGATE.—Mr. E. Tait was asked to bring up the subject of 'Roads and Elephants,' and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to give Mr. Tait necessary details.



5. KURUVANUTH-PERIAKULAM ROAD.—The Report of the Road Board was read.

6. HOOKWORM.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to all members asking for the names of those who are prepared to co-operate with the Anti-Hookworm Campaign, by carrying out all the proposals made by Dr. Kendrick.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Read letter from Secretary, UPASI. It was the unanimous opinion of the Meeting that subscriptions should be collected as heretofore by the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Secretary having informed the Meeting that he had no difficulty in collecting subscriptions.

8. INCORPORATION.—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to call an Extraordinary General Meeting when Mr. J. A. Richardson, next visited the District, for the purpose of signing the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

9. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.—The next and Annual Meeting was fixed for the 6th May, 1922, and at a place to be fixed later.

10. OTHER BUSINESS.—Before closing the Meeting, the Chairman said that he would ask Members to pass a vote of sympathy with Mr. H. L. Braidwood, I. C. S., in his late bereavement, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write accordingly. This was done, all members standing.

With a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting then terminated.

(Signed) E. C. SYLVESTER,

Chairman.

( „ ) A. R. ST. GEORGE,

Honorary Secretary.

## THE ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE ANAMALLAI CLUB, ON TUESDAY THE 24TH JANUARY, 1922.

PRESENT.—Messrs. J. Hatton Robinson, (Chairman), A. V. Danagher, E. Johnson, T. Davenport, I. Stewart, W. V. Reilly, E. N. House, A. W. F. Mills, C. L. Napier, S. Sladden, E. H. Francis and D. Cooper, (Honorary Secretary.)  
BY PROXY.—Mr. E. W. Simcock.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 14th December, 1921, were taken as read and confirmed.

U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR COMMISSION.—Decided that the Committee should visit the District in the morning and meet members of the Association at the Club at 2 p. m., 31st instant.

CONCESSIONS TO COOLIES.—After considerable discussion, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Stewart and seconded by Mr. Johnson was put to the Meeting and lost:—

“ Proposed that this Meeting appoint a Committee to fix concessions, so that only those who come in when we require them get these concessions, and that in the meanwhile the concessions now given remain as they are.”

DELEGATES' EXPENSES.—The Honorary Secretary was requested to ask Delegates to send in their bills.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.—Mr. Simcock, who brought this question up, was unavoidably absent owing to illness, and the matter was thus left over.

ILLICIT IMPORTATION OF ARRACK.—Read letter from the Manager, Sholayar Estate to D. S. P., Coimbatore.

Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the D. S. P., Coimbatore *re* this question.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Read letter from the U. P. A. S. I., *re* South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund.

Meeting unanimously decided that the Anamallai Planters' Association should become a Member, and contribute Rs. 25 annually.

Read letters from Ethirajulu Naidu *re* shops and township.

Mrs. Pascoe,

Sir Fairless Barber.

Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., *re* Road Board.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting terminated.

(Signed) J. HATTON ROBINSON,  
Chairman,

( „ ) DUDLEY COOPER,  
Honorary Secretary.

## INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS.

For the convenience of Districts contemplating entrance in the U. P. A. S. I. Inter-District Tennis Tournament this year we publish below the rules of the tournament as they at present stand:—

### Rules.

1. The following shall be eligible to play, viz:—

- (a) European employees of Estates belonging to a District Association affiliated to the U. P. A. S. I.
- (b) European employees of the U. P. A. S. I.

2. Each District and the U. P. A. S. I. shall be represented by a team of not more than three men.



3. The tournament shall be a knock out one, and ordinarily, the draw for the first round shall be in areas, thus : —

GROUP A (4 teams)—Southern area.

South Travancore, Mundakayam, Peermade and West Coast.

GROUP B (6 teams)—Central area.

Anamalais, Nilgiris, Wynaad, Nilgiri-Wynaad, U. P. A. S. I., and High Range.

GROUP C (5 teams) Northern area.

Bababudins, Coorg, North Mysore, South Mysore and Shevaroyes.

(N. B.—This arrangement is suggested to obviate extensive travelling such as would ordinarily ensue if South Travancore, for instance, were drawn against the Bababudins. At the request of the High Range, they were last year transferred from Group A to Group B, and any such request will be considered by the Committee, who will rearrange groups if they consider it advisable.)

4. The matches in the preliminary rounds shall be two singles (best of 3 setts) and one doubles (best of 3 setts.)

5. In the group semi-finals and finals the matches shall be two singles (best of five setts) and one doubles (best of five setts )

\*N. B.—In explanation of Rules 4 and 5, two singles means that each of 2 players in a team shall play a singles against each of 2 players in the opposing team.

6. To further obviate extensive travelling teams may meet on neutral courts if they mutually agree to do so, except for the finals.

7. The finals shall be played at Coimbatore.

8. The first Entrance Fee shall be Rs. 100 from each team, and the subsequent annual subscription Rs. 10.

9. All expenses in connection with the actual games shall be borne by the teams themselves.

10. The preliminary rounds should invariably be completed by the end of June each year, and the date of the finals shall be fixed by the Committee, and shall take place at any time they may decide between the 1st July and 31st December of each year.

11. In the event of the same men not being available for the successive rounds the composition of the team may be changed from "round" to "round".

12. The matches shall be decided on points calculated as follows: —

For each singles the winner shall score one point for his side. For the doubles the winners shall score 3 points for their side.

## COFFEE.

## MONTHLY STATISTICS TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1921.

	1921.	1920.	1919.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
<b>EAST INDIA—</b>			
Landed	... 4,455	3,526	5,292
Delivered	... 5,032	3,629	4,243
Stock	407	1,040	1,143
<b>ALL AFRICA—</b>			
Landed	... 4,004	5,348	3,687
Delivered	... 4,728	4,548	3,219
Stock	... 1,089	1,817	1,017
<b>COFFEE OF ALL KINDS—</b>			
Stock in London on Dec. 31st ...	11,660	19,366	20,370
Total European Imports do. ...	440,225	240,050	467,250
Do. Deliveries do. ...	421,580	289,940	370,400
Do. Stock on do. ...	106,000	114,120	127,000
World's Visible Supply on do. ...	556,525	508,705	566,765
Offerings in Auction have been:—			

	Total to 31—12—21.	Since January 1st 1922. Offered.	Sold.
	Bags.	Bags.	Bags.
East India	... 52,291	10	0
Nairobi	... 59,573	1,000	520
Uganda }	... 30,352	686	311
Toro }		91	50
Costa Rica	... 87,851	4,472	1,542
Other Milds	... 102,247	1,999	123
Brazil	... 76,678	...	...
Robusta	... 3,386	...	...
Tanganyika }	... 15,844	290	84
Kitimangaro }		218	218



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## TEA TRADE

We take the following from the "Calcutta Commercial Gazette" and "Investors' Guide":—

### TEA BEFORE FISCAL COMMISSION.

Some interesting lights have been thrown on the Indian Tea Industry by Mr. T. C. Crawford, Chairman of the Indian Tea Association in his evidence before the Fiscal Commission regarding "protection" of industries. He said, the indiscriminate imposition of protective duties would almost certainly affect foreign trade, and his Association would not be disposed to advocate such a policy, for, they favour a reciprocal, and not an aggressive policy.

With regard to export duties, this Association consider these to be economically unsound except as a method of raising revenue; and in such a contingency an export duty is justifiable only when the article assessed is a monopoly of the country of export. In particular the Association have all along taken very strong exception to the imposition of an export duty on tea, which is not a monopoly.

They very strongly recommend the abolition of the export duty on tea at the earliest possible moment. They are of opinion that, if British-grown tea were granted a preference throughout the British Empire, the consumption of Indian tea would be increased, and so, therefore, would be demand. The Association feel confident that, if the Commonwealth Government conceded a preferential rate of duty to British-grown teas, this would go far towards increasing the consumption of Indian tea in that country.

The Association was in favour of Imperial Preference with reciprocity basis.

Mr. T. C. Crawford further stated that the quality of Java tea would be more in line with the medium grade Assam tea. It is owing to proximity to Australia, as also the comparative cheapness, Java tea has an advantageous position there. In the American market, China and Java tea are competitors to Indian tea and Java has no export duty.

The depression through which the trade recently passed was really due to adverse exchange. There was a considerable reduction in the demand since Russia was out of the market, and she took over 30 million pounds of tea annually. Besides being the largest consumer of Indian Tea, the United Kingdom is a big distributing market from where considerable amounts go to Canada and the continent. The internal market of India is also increasing. Regarding the expansion of the Indian Tea industry, Mr. Crawford said that the exports have risen from 8 million to 386 million pounds, or over 500 per cent. He represents 90 per cent. of the industries, and over 20 million pounds are invested in it.

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### CALCUTTA SALES AVERAGE AS. 13-3 PIES.

Messrs. J. Thomas report that in Sale No. 28, held on the 17th January, 1922, total quantity sold was 13,005 chests, which fetched an average of

As. 13-3 pies as compared with the last week's sale on the 10th January at As. 12-6 per lb. The market opened very strong after Christmas for all teas up to Re. 1. Above that figure prices dropped some 2 annas. This sale was characterised by very strong buying for all common leaf teas and Broken Pekoe Souchongs, which advanced 2 annas, other teas maintaining a strong market. The Dooars crops are now practically sold and there is very little to come forward from Assam.

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Messrs. A. W. Figgis & Co., report on yesterday's Sale No. 29 thus:—

Quantity brought to auction to date.—1921—569,364 packages;  
1920—536,943 packages; 1919—662,049 packages.

Corresponding Sale Season 1920 offered 23,399 packages.

Corresponding Sale Season 1919 offered 36,687 packages.

Selection and quality was not so attractive as of late, and was of the usual nature of sales at the finish of the season.

After the smart rise reported last week on low grade brokens and ordinary Pekoes, a rapid reaction took place, largely reducing the advance recorded last week, but still shewing an increase of about an anna in comparison with the sale before last.

We quote a decline of 1 to 1-6 annas on ordinary clean common Broken Leaf sorts, and a decline of As. 1-6 to As. 2 on ordinary clean leaf Pekoes; higher grade teas of the medium description were fully firm to rather dearer.

Dusts were a strong market, and closed dearer by 3 to 6 pies.

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#### LONDON MARKET 16'05D. PER POUND.

Reporting on Indian Teas in London market, *Reuter* latest dated 16th January, 1922 says:—The total offerings of tea at the Public Sales to be held this week amount to 75,000 packets, comprising 49,000 of Indian and 26,000 packets of Ceylon Tea. Of this amount, 25,000 packages of Indian Tea were brought to auction to-day. Market opened rather quietly, but demand improved for common and medium kinds which were firm, and occasionally fetched rather dearer rates. Reporting on previous auctions held on the 9th, 10th and 13th January, 1922. *Reuter* says, that Indian Tea met with a good demand at firm rates, especially teas up to sixteen pence per pound, which often fetched rather dearer rates. At the auction, dated 13th January, 1922, the average price of Indian Tea was 16'05 pence.

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## NEW USES FOR RUBBER.

### COLD STORAGE CHAMBERS.

A report recently issued by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is an odd example of the fashion in which both patient research and sudden illumination play their parts in the progress of theoretical or applied science. During the war, a Food Investigation Board was appointed by the Department to advise on many problems that arose from the difficulty of feeding the nation. The Board soon came in contact with the fact that cold storage forms an important bridge between constant supply and constant demand, and that the practical methods are uncertain. Enormous losses of food and money took place because of the deterioration of stored provisions, and the causes of this had to be isolated and investigated.

A cold storage reservoir is a sealed chamber within which chilled or frozen organic substances have to be kept at a temperature so low that the proliferation of putrefactive bacteria does not take place. From considerations of economy, it is an advantage to prevent external heat passing through the walls from the outside, and so either actually raising the internal temperature or making a greater call on the machinery employed to keep it low. In a vacuum flask, the principle of which was discovered by Sir James Dewar, the glass vessel containing the substance to be protected is enclosed in a jacket from which the air has been nearly completely exhausted. If the vacuum were complete, heat would be unable to cross the gap, and cold substances in the internal chamber would remain cold, or hot substances remain hot for all time. Actually, as we all know, there is a slow leakage, due to the impossibility of reaching a complete vacuum.

### THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY.

On a large scale vacuum chambers are not practical, because of the enormous pressure that would be exerted by the atmosphere on their external surfaces. And so, in cold storage, the wall of the chamber is composed of various materials which have been found by experience to resist the passage of heat. A sub-committee of experts selected to examine and compare the efficiency of these materials, concentrated first on an inquiry into what is called the thermal conductivity, the quantity of heat units which flows through a given cubic area of the material in a given time, for a given initial difference of temperature between the cold and warm faces. The work was carried out at the National Physical Laboratory, and required the devising of a number of new methods.

On the British system the thermal conductivity of a material is the quantity of heat in British thermal units, (a B. T. U. is the amount of heat necessary to raise 1 lb. of water 1 deg. Fhar.) which flows per square foot per hour through 1 in. thickness of material for a difference of temperature of 1 deg. Fhar. between the faces. The number which expresses the thermal conductivity on the British system is 2,903 times that which would express the conductivity on the international or C. G. S. (centimetre-gramme-second) system.

### HEAT INSULATORS.

Cement is a bad insulator; as everyone knows, it feels cold to the hand, which means that the heat from the body rapidly flows away through

it. The number for its thermal conductivity on the British system was found to be between 8 and 9. A bitumen composition slab is "warmer" to the touch ; its number on the same system is between 5 and 6. Wood, such as is employed for decks, is much better, its number being just over 1. But these are all very inefficient, as will be seen from comparison with the number representing the conductivity of material found to be really good, such as cork, slagwood, charcoal and wood fibres. The number for these is about 32, that is to say, less than one-third of wooden deck planking.

In the course of the work it was discovered that, in a vertical wall of insulating material, heat passed rather rapidly upwards from the bottom towards the top. This and other observations led to the conclusion that the value of insulators really depended on the presence in their spongy interstices of relatively stagnant air. The more freely the air could flow by convection currents, the more rapidly heat leaked. When the insulating material was old, damaged, or cracked, it might lose as much as 40 per cent. of its resistance. Still air was found to have a thermal conductivity barely half that of the best of the insulating materials.

At that point the committee had reached the conclusion of this stage of its labours, pointing out that there was still a margin for improvement by finding a more suitable material in cellular form. At that point, also, a new material was brought to their notice, so late that they were able to state its high promise in a supplementary note only. The material consists of rubber expanded by gas into a highly cellular form. Under a low-power microscope, it is seen to consist of minute air cells bounded by rubber membranes. The boundary walls themselves have a low conductivity, and the stagnant air contained in them presents the ideal conditions for resisting the passage of heat. This form of rubber is an extremely light solid, only about half the weight of an equal volume of slab cork, and has a conductivity lower than that of any material hitherto used or studied, being, in fact, only about half as much again as that of still air. It is prepared by vulcanization under gaseous pressure of about a hundred atmospheres, and is totally different from the ordinary spongy rubber, which is heavy, porous and absorbent. The next move must be taken by the rubber manufacturer.—"London Times."

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RUBBER.

The "*Times of Ceylon*" London Correspondent writing under date, 12th January, 1921, says:—

## THE NEW RUBBER SHOP.

Leaving Gracechurch Street, I made for No. 40, Fenchurch Street where, I understood, the new 100 per cent. rubber shop was already opened. But I found it still in the hands of the workmen, though as the shelves were being fixed and the counter was in place, the opening date could not be far off. I was told it would be ready before the end of this week. It may be remembered that I spoke of Oxford Street as a good spot for this venture. But No. 40, it but one door from the top of Mincing Lane, and the locality teems with people who know all about rubber, and are greatly interested in it. Within a quarter of a mile of this spot are located almost all of the London offices of rubber Companies, rubber dealers and brokers, so that it is well chosen, and should soon make a name for itself from the excellence of the articles sold.

## WOOD-CUM-RUBBER ROAD PAVING.

It may be remembered, in my description of my visit to the Peachey Works at Willesden, I mentioned the blocks of a foreign patentee—wood covered with rubber. The headquarters of this new development in a most desired quarter, *viz.*, the use of rubber in any form, for paving, were, I was told, at 14, Mincing Lane, and I went there to hear to what progress was being made. They will have more to communicate next week. As regards the patent, it is claimed that by vulcanising, by the Peachey Process, a layer of rubber, about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick to the sides and ends of the ordinary wood paving block a system of very efficient paving is provided, the laying of which entails a minimum of labour and subsidiary materials. While the additional cost of the blocks is about 40s. per square yard, it is said that the saving in labour and materials such as tar and sand is 35s. per square yard. But yet another claim is made for the system that has at least the merit of originality, namely that it provides a hidden reserve of rubber. The patentees assert that, when the road is taken up the rubber will be as good as ever, and readily saleable according to the market price of the day. An ingenious way of dealing with surplus rubber!

## PAPER FROM RUBBER LATEX.

It is being freely stated in the papers that, in consequence of researches which have been made in London, paper may be made from rubber latex used with wood-pulp. The process has been patented by Mr. F. Kaye, A. R. C. S. Already it is stated that—as regards art paper—promising results have been secured. "*The Manchester Guardian*" says "The organisation which is responsible for these investigations is naturally reticent on the subject for the time being, but I understand that little doubt remains that before very long paper will be produced from rubber on a commercial basis. From what I have heard from the process the scheme certainly seems to be a very likely one, and one which, if it justifies the hopes of the originators, will lead to a big improvement in the printed page."

"If the process is eventually brought to fruition the consequence will be of as much importance to the rubber industry as the printing trade, in that the demand for raw rubber will be so great as to lift the industry out of the despondent state in which it has so long existed. There will almost certainly be another 'rubber boom' should matters develop according to present expectations."

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

#### **Sir Fairless Barber.**

A very fine portrait of Sir Fairless Barber has been received at Head-quarters, and will be unveiled by the Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I. on the 22nd February next prior to the General Committee Meeting. The U. P. A. S. I. portrait gallery of distinguished planters grows apace, and will soon require larger housing accommodation than the reception room affords.

#### **Coffee.**

We publish on another page monthly statistics to December 31st, 1921, for which we are indebted to Messrs. J. H. Allan & Co., who write "The market re-opened on the 5th January. There was a fair demand, and a good proportion of the offerings sold in or after the auctions, although prices were scarcely up to the high level ruling before the holidays. Yesterday the demand was slow, and prices rather irregular. Fine coffees are much wanted, but as supplies increase the fancy values recently current can hardly be maintained, while the cessation of sales of prize coffee will take their pressure off lower priced kinds, and we may look for a gradual reduction of the present very wide margin between best and medium grades."

#### **Tea.**

We are informed that Mr. H. W. Newby, the Commissioner for India, Tea Cess Committee, is of opinion that Southern India Estates would find a ready market in India for some of their produce at attractive prices. He suggests that samples be sent to him in Calcutta, showing types and approximate prices at which Estates would sell F. O. R. their nearest Railway Station. Members of the U. P. A. S. I. would do well to address Mr. Newby direct at 111, Park Street, Calcutta.

#### **Stud Bulls.**

The Government have sanctioned the stationing of two pure bred Ayrshire Bulls at Ootacamund for stud purposes. These will be stalled at the Botanical Gardens, under the care of the Curator of the Gardens. These are expected to arrive at Ootacamund on the 8th February, 1922.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED,

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 3rd February, 1922.

129s./- per cwt. Nominal.

## THE SOUTH INDIA PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Chairman of the Mundakayam Planters' Association, in his interesting review of the past year makes a reference to this fund for which the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. has recently issued a special appeal. We are able to publish this week a summary of the subscriptions received, from which it will be seen that 198 personal members and 2 Estates subscribed between them Rs. 4,216 during the 10 months ending 31st January, 1922. It is not a very satisfactory result, and is, in fact, rather less than the amount subscribed during the same period in 1920-21. Unfortunately, the Fund has had some heavy calls upon it so that the reduced income is particularly to be deplored. We have often enough pointed out in these columns the urgent need for support. We have, over and over again, related how

deserving cases have been helped, and we have more than once made the very same appeal which the Mundakayam Chairman now makes, *viz.*, to South Indian Estates for an Estate subscription. Look at the list below! In three Associations comprising, we should imagine 50 or 60 planters in all, so far only 5 have subscribed. In our other Associations comprising perhaps 75 planters, a total of 25 have contributed. We feel sure that it is not because the meaning of the fund is misunderstood, it is more likely forgetfulness, and we sincerely trust that planters who have not done so already will send along their Rs. 10 at least, before the close of the financial year in March.

### S. I. P. B. FUND.

#### SUMMARY OF SUBSCRIBERS

From 1-4-1921 to 31-1-1922.

Name of Associations.	Number of		Amount.		
	Personal member.	Estates.	Rs.	a.	p.
1 Anamallai Planters' Association	... 42	...	577	8	0
2 Bababudin do	... 6	...	60	0	0
3 Central Travancore do	... 18	...	215	0	0
4 Coorg do	... 5	...	60	0	0
5 Kanan Devan do	... 34	...	385	0	0
6 Mundakayam do	... 9	...	348	8	0
7 Nilgiris do	... 12	...	460	0	0
8 Nilgiri-Wynaad do	... 2	...	25	0	0
9 North Mysore do	... 2	...	30	0	0
10 Shevaroy's do	... 1	...	10	0	0
11 South Mysore do	... 17	2	445	0	0
12 „ Travancore do	... 18	...	180	0	0
13 West Coast do	... 5	...	260	0	0
14 Wynaad do	... 11	...	520	0	0
15 U. P. A. S. I.	... 7	...	90	0	0
16 Associations and Firms	... 7	...	250	0	0
17 Other Donations	... 2	...	300	0	0
Total ... 198			2	4,216	0 0



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 5 OF 1922. (29TH JANUARY TO 4TH FEBRUARY).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, returned to Coimbatore from Sidapur, where he had been inspecting the Coffee Experiment Station, on 31st January. Mr. Anstead leaves for Pusa, to attend the Meeting of the Board of Agriculture for India, on the night of 8th February, and will be away till the end of the month. Letters will be regularly forwarded to Mr. Anstead, but correspondents are asked to remember that it is five days' post to Pusa !

2. MITES ON TEA.—During the week, specimens of tea leaves attacked by Purple Mite (*Phytopus carinatus*) have been received. A bush badly attacked has every leaf, except the young flush, a deep bronze colour. Both surfaces are attacked, but the discolouration is most marked on the upper surface. The attacked leaves ultimately fall off, leaving the bushes with a thin appearance, and the bushes are injured by this defoliation, which results in what is often called a "hide bound appearance", necessitating heavy pruning. Both leaf surfaces, especially along the veins, are covered with a white powdery substance, which by the aid of a lens is seen to consist of cast skins. The Mites themselves are very small, and even when magnified ten times are still difficult to see, a difficulty increased by the fact that they are sluggish in their movements.

Various remedies are suggested. The most usual is the application of dry sulphur in the form of dust. This should be applied when the tea leaves are wet with dew, or failing this, the bushes should be first sprayed with water. 10 lbs of sulphur per acre are necessary. Another remedy is to spray with kerosine or crude oil emulsion. To make the former, the following formula may be used :—

Kerosine Oil,	...	...	...	2 gallons
Soap.	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Water.	...	...	...	20 gallons.

The soap is first dissolved in a gallon of boiling water, the kerosine is then added and the mixture violently agitated for ten minutes, by pumping it into itself with a syringe. While agitating the mixture should be kept hot. When thoroughly agitated, add the rest of the water. Crude oil emulsion is difficult to prepare on the estate, but may be obtained from Messrs. Bathgate & Co., Calcutta, and costs (or did before the War) Rs. 6-8-0 per 5 gallon drum. It should be used at the rate of one gallon to 50 gallons of water, thoroughly mixed to form a milky solution.

The Government Entomologist suggests the use of fish oil soap as a spray. All these remedies should be repeated 7 to 10 days later, as they do not kill the eggs of the Mite.

My experience has been that attack by Mites is usually connected with faulty cultivation, and wherever it is experienced I would advise careful attention to cultivation, more especially drainage. Deepening of existing drains and putting in new ones often causes the Mites to entirely disappear.

3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (22nd—28th JAN.)—The Coffee Experiment Station was visited by the Deputy Director of Agriculture

Planting Districts, from 27th to 29th. The Station is well worth a visit by coffee planters, as a lot of interesting work is going on. The permanent experiments like manurial and cultivation experiments cannot be expected to give any definite results till they have been carried out for a number of years, but a number of interesting experiments are being conducted which yield rapid results. Thus, one can see different green dressing crops being grown, the effect of spraying and line compost manure, different methods of renovating old worn out coffee, and so on, and watch their progress. In view of the correspondence, which is now going on as to the relative merits of Jackson's Hybrid and Kent's Arabica, planters can see at the Station a plot of each, planted in identically the same way on similar soil (old coffee land where worn out coffee was removed) and compare the two. The coffee in these plots is now 16 months old.

With reference to this correspondence, I should like to take this opportunity of advising all coffee planters to make a trial of these two kinds of improved strains for themselves, side by side, and then choose the best and not to judge them by other men's experience. It will be found that local conditions are a very large factor, and it is impossible to say beforehand which will do best. Conditions which suit Jackson's in one locality and do not suit Kent's may, in another locality, exactly reverse the position. My advice to all coffee planters is to try both under their local conditions, side by side, and see which does the better, and having discovered this, to stick to it whatever any one else says.

During the week under report there was no rain, and hot days and cold nights were experienced. The work of weeding and mulching the Hybrid plots has been finished. The harvesting of the crop has been completed, and roads are being cleaned and repaired.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, dry weather continues, and the crop is falling in consequence; 156 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 1.79 acres, a yield of 87 lbs. per acre only. Helopeltis is still attacking the China and China Hybrid tea. Terracing work of the drains on the Station is being continued.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, hot weather conditions prevailed, and the trees are wintering. At the *Tenmalai Station*, the bark of the trees is being examined for the attack of a boring insect, and out of 2,031 trees, 346 were found affected. These can be removed by scraping. This pest is under report by the Government Entomologist.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*

4—ii—22.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

Coimbatore,

8th February, 1922.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT No. 39.

No Report has been issued since the 14th December last, as there has been no particular subject to report on.

1. LABOUR ENQUIRY COMMISSION.—The Commission have now completed their tours in all Planting Districts and Labour Divisions, and



are now finishing their work at the U. P. A. S. I. Head Office, and it is expected that their Report will be circulated shortly.

2. COCHIN HARBOUR.—On the 30th January a Meeting was held at Cochin of those interested in the Harbour, to meet Mr. Izatt, the Special Officer deputed by Government of India to investigate the Railway requirements of Southern India. At this Meeting the Secretary attended, and it was the opinion of those present that, with certain improvements to be made as regards gradients, the metre gauge of the Cochin State Railway should be continued in order that connection without break of bulk should be made with the proposed railways, (1) from Shoranur to Manantoddy, (2) from Trichur to Pollachi and Dindigul, (3) from Ernakulam to the Anamallais. Mr. Izatt expressed the opinion that figures supplied to date do not justify the extension of the broad gauge system from the South Indian Railway to Cochin.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.

### MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE MUNDKAYAM CLUB, ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST, 1922, AT 10 A. M.

PRESENT.—Messrs. J. R. Vincent, (Chairman), R. Harley, F. G. Millar, H. B. McPherson, W. M. Stanton, H. R. Carson Parker, I. N. James, A. B. H. Dickson, G. A. Brooke, R. M. Saywell, C. L. McLean, and F. H. Moulton, Honorary Secretary. Visitor—Mr. R. Keene.

1. MINUTES.—The minutes of the last General Meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.

2. COMMITTEE'S REPORT.—The Honorary Secretary read the minutes of the last Committee meeting, and it was proposed by Mr. F. G. Millar, and seconded by Mr. W. M. Stanton, that they be confirmed. Carried.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.—The Chairman addressed the meeting as follows:—

"Gentlemen,—As the report of the Honorary Secretary will probably contain details of the work of the Association during the year, I will confine my remarks to the policy of the Association, and the general conditions of our industry during 1921.

At the beginning of the year our attitude regarding restriction of crops was that proposed and accepted at the R. G. A. meeting in Cochin in 1920, and the members of the Association loyally carried out their undertakings. Towards the middle of 1921, the feeling of rubber planters in the country underwent a change, and it was strongly felt that, owing to certain conditions peculiar to South India, the restriction proposals for Malaya and Ceylon were not suitable. This found expression in a resolution by your delegates to the U. P. A. S. I. in August, which was carried unanimously. Again in October, at the R. G. A. meeting in Cochin, it was found that views had once more changed considerably, and the consensus of opinion then was, as it now apparently is, that South India cannot afford to restrict its output.

Since our last Annual Meeting we have been fortunate in securing for the Mycological Station the services of Mr. Ashplant, and I am sure you will agree with me that we may congratulate the Rubber Industry in South India on the happy selection that has been made. Mr. Ashplant has already applied himself to the problems with which we are faced, and I am sure that it is only a question of time for him to be able to solve most of them.

During the year our Association has at all times loyally supported the Parent Association, although our views differ very considerably from those of the persons responsible for the U. P. A. S. I. policy, and we still hope and trust that the principle enunciated by this Association in 1918 will eventually be adopted, if not in its entirety, at least so far as the Labour Department is concerned.

On several occasions during the past twelve months, a determined effort has been made to give the General Committee of the Parent Association power to enhance the cess payable by members of District Associations. This Association has steadily resisted all such attempts, and will, I trust, in future continue to resist.

The position of the Industry during the past season has been very grave, and the year just past has been the most critical in the history of rubber growing in South India. Prices have touched the lowest on record, and there has been a slump in rubber share values, not only of South Indian Companies, but of Companies in all the countries where plantation rubber is grown. These low prices have come, unfortunately, after huge losses had been made through an adverse exchange, with the consequence that financial reserves have been depleted, and money to carry on with has been hard to obtain. Under the circumstances it is little short of marvellous to find that, in spite of all the hard blows the Industry has received, very few estates have had to close down, and, unless the beginning of the next tapping season sees a further fall in prices, it appears likely that in a few months' time we shall again be producing normally. As an optimist the rubber planter would appear hard to beat, and I can only hope that his optimism will be justified at an early date.

Before I close, gentlemen, there is one more subject on which I should like to touch, and that is the Planters' Benevolent fund. During the past 12 months there have been very heavy calls on the fund, and the income has, I believe, been insufficient to meet these calls in their entirety. I know that all those present have done their best for the fund, and I am making this appeal for the purpose of asking Superintendents to try and persuade their Companies to subscribe at the rate of, say, Rs. 50 per annum per estate.

This is a very small sum indeed for an estate to subscribe, and I feel sure that few Directors will be hard-hearted enough to resist the appeal. The Estates in Ceylon most of them subscribe to the Ceylon Planters' fund, and I think it time that we approached owners in this country with a view to getting them to do the same. As to the method in which the appeal should be made, say, through Superintendents, or direct from your Honorary Secretary, is a matter of detail which can be discussed and decided on when this subject comes up for discussion, but I trust you will all support the proposal.



In conclusion, gentlemen, I wish to thank Mr. Moulton, our hard-working Honorary Secretary, and also the Association Committee, for the able way in which they have supported me during the year.

I now place my resignation in your hands."

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services throughout the year was proposed by Mr. C. L. McLean, seconded by Mr. F. G. Millar and carried unanimously.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT — The Honorary Secretary read his report as under :—

" Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The following is my report on the working of the Association for the year ending 31st December, 1921.

**MEMBERS AND ACREAGE.**—The number of estates on our books remains the same as in 1920, but we have enrolled ten new personal members. We have now on our books 1,089 acres of tea and 11,834 acres of rubber, making a total of 12,923 subscribing acres.

**ACCOUNTS.**—We commenced the year with a surplus of Rs 1,369-8-6, and end with a credit balance of Rs. 1,450-8 2. The Balance Sheet shows a balance on Income and Expenditure account of Rs. 6,412-6 2, but out of this we still owe the U. P. A. S. I. Rs. 4,961-14 0 on subscription account. During the year I only called in 2 annas on Local P. A. account, but we have been able to work the Association on that and to make a small saving. The accounts have very kindly been audited by Messrs. Millar and Carson Parker, to whom we owe our best thanks.

**MEETING.**—During the year we held two Extraordinary General Meetings, two General Meetings, and four Committee Meetings.

**SRI MULAM.**—Mr. Vincent kindly represented us again at the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, I might almost add as usual.

**COOLY CHATTRAM.**—The expenses of the Chattram amounted to Rs. 207-12-0, of which the C. T. P. A. paid their half share. During the year 1,272 coolies used the building, of which 1,171 were from Peermade, and 101 from Mundakayam.

This is a very short report, gentlemen, for which I know you will thank me, but I shall be glad to try and answer any questions in connection with the Association which may be of interest to you. Gentlemen, I place my resignation before you."

Mr. Harley proposed and Mr. Carson Parker seconded that the Report be adopted. Carried.

5. **ACCOUNTS.**—A copy of the accounts was placed on the table, and these, together with the budget for 1922, were passed.

6. **INCORPORATION.**—No resolution was passed under this heading.

7. **S. INDIAN PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.**—The following resolution was moved from the Chair, and passed :—" With reference to the

appeal from the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I., this Association is of opinion that owners of estates should be asked to subscribe to the Planters' Benevolent Fund at the rate of Rs. 50 per thousand acres, and in that proportion per annum; and that the appeal be made by the Secretary of the Fund. That this resolution be put before the U. P. A. S. I. at an early opportunity."

8. ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.—The following were elected as Office-bearers for 1922:—

Chairman	... Mr. F. G. Millar.
Honorary Secretary	... Mr. G. A. Brooke.
Committee	... Mr. J. R. Vincent, (Vice-President), Messrs. C. L. McLean, H. R. Carson Parker, R. Harley, and J. J. Murphy.

#### 9. CORRESPONDENCE:—

1. Letter from Travancore Combined Planters' Association. The Secretary was instructed to ask that a proposal to approach the Travancore Government, with a view to obtaining financial aid towards the upkeep of the Rubber Mycological Station, be put on the agenda of the next meeting of the T. C. P. A.
2. Letter from the Commissioner, Devicolum, *re* Election of M. L. C., Travancore. The President and the Honorary Secretary were asked to act as Revising Authority.
3. Letter from Superintendent, Labour Department, Palamcottah. The Secretary was instructed to ask that this communication be addressed to superintendents of estates direct.
4. Letter from Mr. A. C. Morrell *re* General Committee Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. on November 28th. The Secretary was instructed to express the best thanks of the Association to Mr. Morrell for representing them at this meeting.
5. Letter from Secretary, Travancore Sambavar Sangham. The Secretary was instructed to express the Association's sympathy with the aims of this body.

10. ELECTION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—Proposed by Mr. J. R. Vincent, seconded by Mr. F. H. Moulton and carried, that Messrs. F. G. Millar and C. P. Brooke be elected.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

(Signed) J. R. VINCENT,  
Chairman.

( ) F. H. MOULTON,  
Honorary Secretary.



## RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.

## Monthly Statistics.

JANUARY, 1922.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

## IMPORTS.

From	December.			12 Months ended Dec.		
	1921.	1920.	1913.	1921.	1920.	1913
Straits Settlements and F. M. S. ...	2,849	3,866	2,134	48,550	59,672	24,984
Ceylon and British India ...	1,441	2,245	833	18,649	26,912	7,583
Dutch East Indies, &c. ...	698	1,511	114	14,950	12,940	1,647
Brazil and Peru ...	286	52	1,564	2,164	8,290	17,532
Other Countries ...	70	97	1,192	678	3,064	18,542
Total Tons ...	5,344	7,771	5,837	84,991	110,878	70,288

## EXPORTS.

To	December.			12 Months ended Dec.		
	1921.	1920.	1913.	1921.	1920.	1913.
United States of America ...	2,482	35	1,531	20,504	24,849	17,791
Canada ...	2	111	18	137	3,245	439
France ...	1,186	321	486	8,068	11,920	5,319
Belgium ...	45	88	177	1,142	2,163	2,269
Italy ...	56	121	7	1,304	2,689	252
Spain ...	10	24	4	170	229	65
Germany, Austria, Hungary ...	606	462	813	7,951	5,319	9,869
Russia ...	...	5	558	163	63	6,354
Sweden, Norway and Denmark ...	49	172	42	766	1,298	650
Other Countries in Europe ...	99	119	109	2,613	1,080	1,247
Other Extra Euro- pean Countries...	...	10	73	54	1,052	757
Total Tons ...	4,535	1,468	3,818	42,872	53,907	45,012

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the month of December.

		Deli- Landed vered for Dec. for Dec.		Stocks 31st Dec. 1921. 1920. 1919.		
LONDON ...	{ Plantation ...	4,443	5,413	69,612	50,222	21,615
	{ Other Grades...	..	11	180*	430	594
LIVERPOOL...	{ Plantation ...	155†	331†	8,102	3,961†	1,621†
	{ Para & Peruvian	230	490	1,310	620	770
	{ Other Grades.,	...	...	457	439	380
Totals London & Liverpool ...		4,828	6,245	79,661	55,672	24,980

† Official Returns from the six recognised Public Warehouses.

\* Adjusted owing to stock-taking at various Wharves.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber, excluding Gutta, Balata and Guayule, to and from the U. S. A., AS PER RETURNS OF THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

		October.			10 Months ended Oct.		
		1921.	1920.	1919.	1921.	1920.	1919.
IMPORTS ...		21,269	9,159	19,521	136,115	227,423	189,595
EXPORTS ...		634	827	285	4,670	3,192	1,750

#### RECEIPTS AT PARA.

		December.			Jan./Dec. (12 months).		
		1921.	1920.	1919.	1921.	1920.	1919.
Rubber ...		1,825	1,530	2,640	15,347	8,800	13,660
Caucho ...		245	230	220	4,843	1,981	2,870
Total...		2,070	1,760	2,860	20,190	10,781	16,530



## PREPARATION OF MYSORE COFFEE FOR THE ENGLISH MARKET.

Under the above title, Mr. E. W. Rutherford, the well known Hassan Coffee Planter has written a most instructive treatise which is being distributed from the Office of the *Planters' Chronicle*, free of charge, to those interested. Perhaps, the best idea of the aims and object of Mr. Rutherford's work can be gained from a perusal of the preface, which is supplied by Mr. R. D. Anstead, who writes:—

The pages of the Books of Proceedings of Meetings of the United Planters' Association of Southern India reveal the fact that, as long ago as 1899, the question of the deterioration of South Indian Coffee was being discussed, and various reasons have been given for this from time to time. Some of these reasons can only be described as fanciful, so all Coffee planters will welcome Mr. Rutherford's carefully written pamphlet on the subject, laying his finger on what is undoubtedly a weak place in the preparation of Coffee in South India, namely, the estate drying of the bean before it reaches the coast curer.

My own opinion is that a lot of the trouble is caused by mixing ripe and unripe berries before they are pulped, and that a great improvement in evenness and quality could be obtained by a preliminary grading of the cherry before pulping. In this connection, it is of great importance to keep Coffee harvested from poor patches separate from that harvested from the good coffee. Almost every estate has some patches of Coffee which are poor for one reason or another, due to bad drainage, bad soil, attacks of root disease, and so on; and these patches of unhealthy bushes naturally give a product which is below standard and which ripens unevenly. This should be dealt with separately, as if mixed with the main crop it may spoil the whole batch.

I am in entire agreement with the Author about the importance of even drying on the estate, and on this account, am in favour of mechanical drying machinery, which not only produces an evenly dried crop, but also saves labour, a factor of annually increasing importance on estates.

The vagaries of the London Market have a certain effect upon this question of quality, since quality cannot, unfortunately, be defined by means of an analytically determinable figure, such for instance, as caffein content. Coffee is judged and bought on its colour and liquoring properties, both more or less arbitrary standards, and open to the vagaries of personal opinion. The consequence is that so called deterioration is apt to be heard about more in years when Coffee is plentiful and prices low. Buyers are then able to pick and choose, and some excuse must be given by brokers for disappointing sales. In years of short crop and high prices, it is noticeable that much less is heard about deterioration.

Some interesting figures of prices were given recently in a report on the Exports of the Madras Presidency. If the average price of Coffee for the years 1898 to 1910 is taken as a standard and called 100, then, the relative prices of Coffee since that date have been as follows:—

1910—11	...	...	...	87'47
1916—17	...	...	...	99'41
1917—18	...	...	...	87'60
1918—19	...	...	...	95'12
1919—20	...	...	...	111'81
1920—21	...	...	...	109'00

I think it will be found that it is in years in which the price falls below the standard of 100 that we hear most about deterioration.

Despite this, however, a great deal can undoubtedly be done by the planter to control the quality of his Coffee and keep it at a high standard of excellence, and thus, to a very large extent, neutralise the vagaries of the Market. The information given in this pamphlet will go far to help him to attain this desirable object.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

Hope Estate,  
Guynd P. O., 2-2-22.

Dear Sir,—Regarding Mr. Wilkin's letter in *Planters' Chronicle* of the 7th ulto, I should like to say what I know about "Kent's Arabica." I put out Basket Plants of this coffee in September 1919, both as supplies in Old Coffee and in New Land, and the majority of them have come on *remarkably well*. At about 17 months old some of them were 5 feet high with a little crop on them, and I topped them at 3½ feet. I notice if they are planted in thick coffee, they do not make such good growth, but in open places they come on wonderfully *without* manure, with manure I am certain they would have made remarkable growth.

Now these plants are 2 years and 5 months old, and they are absolutely crammed with spike from the stems to the very tips of the primaries—I observe they do not come on so well if the shade is a bit dense. On an average these plants have 6 pairs of primaries, topped at 3½ feet, and have a wonderfully healthy appearance.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
J. H. WAPSHARR.

### Upasi Head Office Expenditure

Sir,—As the "Planters' Chronicle" is the recognised official organ of the UPASI, it would appear not to be out of place to ask you to be good enough to give the following views regarding the Upasi expenditure a place in your correspondence columns; in time, if possible, to reach your readers before the forthcoming General Committee meeting in February.

The points which we wish to place before the members of the District Associations are:—

- (1) The alarming annual increase of expenditure at the Head Office of the UPASI,
- (2) The fact that the budget for 1922—23 shows an increase of some Rs. 10,000 in the estimated expenditure of the Head Office, over and above the abnormally high expenditure of 1920—21, and 1921—22, and
- (3) The fact that one industry of the three supporting the UPASI, has been unable to meet, and appears unlikely to be able to meet, in future, the heavy demands of the Parent Association.

With regard to point No. 1, it will not be denied that there has been a considerable amount of objection to the annually increasing expenditure, and that, despite this opposition, which hitherto has not found adequate expression, there apparently has not been any successful endeavour on the part of those responsible for the Annual Budgets, to recognise the necessity for economy, or to cut down expenses.



To show how alarming the increases really are, the following figures will be found illuminating :—

		Rs.
Head Office Expenditure in 1915-16	...	11,516
do	do	1916-17 ... 12,318
do	do	1917-18 ... 13,914
do	do	1918-19 ... 16,468 (9 months only)
do	do	1919-20 ... 28,182
do	do	1920-21 ... 32,549
do	do	1921-22 ... 32,170 budget.
do	do	1922-23 ... 42,000 Budget (Approx.)

From the above figures, it will be seen that in the short space of time between 1917-18 to 1921-22, the annual expenditure on the Head Office has risen approximately 300%.

At this juncture the question may be asked, "Has the work and the efficiency of the Head Office increased by 300%?"

The answer is very decidedly in the negative.

In making a comparison of the analysis of the budgetted expenditure in the years 1917-18 and 1921-22, the increases will be seen to fall under the following heads :—

Items.	1917-18.	1921-22.	Decreases.	Increases.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Staff Salaries	... 6,600	19,160	...	12,560
Subordinate ditto	... 2,592	1,350	1,242	...
Rent	... 1,800	3,450	...	1,650
Postage & Telegrams	... 1,000	800	200	...
Stationery & Printing	... 500	750	...	250
Travelling	... 300	4,000	...	3,700
Other expenditure	... 1,122	2,660	...	1,538
	<u>13,914</u>	<u>32,170</u>	<u>-1,242</u>	<u>+18,256</u>

The foregoing figures will not be disputed, as they have been taken from the Books of Proceedings, and they fully justify the use of the words "alarming increase of expenditure".

To pass on to point No. 2. We have had only a glimpse of the Budget for 1922-23 (ends March 31/1923), and so can give only approximate figures, but this glimpse has been sufficient to show that Head Office budgetted expenditure in 1922-23 equals Rs. 42,000, or an increase of Rs. 10,000 above 1921-22 figures. This huge increase would appear mostly to be due to an increase in the staff salaries, which have risen in one year from Rs. 19,160 and Rs. 1,350 to Rs. 28,000 and Rs. 3,500 (see budgets for 1921-22 and 1922-23.)

Those planters who are struggling against the effects of low prices, and an adverse exchange; who have had their salaries cut down by anything from 33% to 50% and who are straining every nerve to reduce their F. O. B. costs, may well be astounded at the sight of the Upasi officials being multiplied in number, and gaily estimating for *deficits* (the deficit estimated in 1922-23 amounts to over Rs. 7000) instead of economising and shewing a surplus of Income over Expenditure.

In 1922-23 again, it will be seen that the extra 2 annas cess per acre is proposed to be levied, and despite this unwarranted assumption that Estates will agree to the extra levy, the deficit still stares us in the face.

In view of the hard times which the Tea industry has just passed through, and which the Rubber industry has been experiencing for over two

years, it is simply incredible and incomprehensible that the framers of the budget have failed to realise the position with which estates are faced, unless they live in some dreamland or Utopia of their own, and in which thoughts of costs of production and such other mundane matters have no place.

In touching on Point No. 3, we should like to state that, unless the General Committee can reduce Head Office expenditure to something like normal proportions, the Upasi will undoubtedly find a falling away of acreages previously members of District Associations, and that in 1914, instead of having a Parent Association representing 1,80,000 acres, it will more likely represent 1,00,000 acres. If this possibility does not alarm the Utopians, who will then find, like Othello, their occupation gone, very little else will make them realise the gravity of the situation.

In commenting on the inability of one industry of the three, (rubber) to pay the demands of the Upasi, it may be instructive to point out the relative expenditures of the Malaya Planters' Association and the UPASI.

In discussing the last budget of the Malayan Planters' Association, the Head Office estimated expenditure of which is Rs. 21,000 members criticised the budget, and complained of the high cost. Now the Malaya Planters' Association represents 6.43,000 acres—the Upasi represents 1,80,000 acres. The Malayan expenditure is Rs. 21,000 as against the Upasi Rs. 42,000. If the Malayan budget can legitimately be criticised, how much more so the Upasi budget?

Your readers may say, Sir, that the above is all very well, but it is only destructive criticism. We, therefore, offer the following as a means of bringing the expenditure down, not, unfortunately, to what the Malaya Planters consider normal, but at least to some considerable extent.

We propose that

- (1) The Secretary of the UPASI should be paid no more than Rs. 1,000 per mensem.
- (2) That an Assistant Secretary is unnecessary.
- (3) That the only rent free bungalow should be the offices of the Upasi.
- (4) That the Labour Department should pay half of that rental.
- (5) That the travelling expenses of the Executive Committee, should be, at least, half of it debited to the Labour Department.
- (6) That the Postages, Printing, Stationery, and any other charges in connection with the running of that Department be debited thereto.
- (7) That rubber acreages should be debited with the cost of the Mycological Station, so that it is not a charge on the Upasi.
- (8) That the Labour Department costs should be subscribed to only by those acreages desirous of its services.
- (9) That, if the Secretary of the Upasi is to do any Labour Department work, then a portion of his salary should be debited to that Department.

Some Estates have already seceded from the District Associations in the Upasi, whilst it appears that more are imminently likely to do so, and if any excuse is needed for such secession, then it can be found in the extravagant and wasteful expenditure of the Head Office of the UPASI.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. R. VINCENT.

„ J. J. MURPHY.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 10th February, 1922.

129s./- per cwt. Nominal.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING—

Arrangements are nearly complete for this meeting on the 22nd and 23rd February, which promises to be well attended. It will be a particularly interesting meeting, as the Labour Commission's report will be discussed at it, in addition to other important matters.

### THE TENNIS TOURNAMENT—

Entries for this year's tournament so far number six, viz., the U. P. A. S. I. Wynaad, Shevaroya, Anamallai, Mundakayam and West Coast. Honorary Secretaries are reminded that the closing date for entries is Monday, 13th March.

### GOLF—

The proposed Golf Tournament is less easy to arrange, but a way out is being sought, and we hope to be able to announce in our next issue that the details have been finally decided upon.

## CRICKET—

Arrangements are in progress for a return match *versus* the Madras Cricket Club to be played at Coimbatore on or about the 29th September, at the time of Ayudha Puja, which is a Government holiday. Preliminary arrangement has also been come to for the Planters to visit Madras again, this time in January 1923 prior to the Presidency Match.

## RUGGER—

A suggestion has appeared in the Madras papers that the planters should send a rugger team to Madras to take part in a tournament, in which Wellington was to be included. We understand however that the latter have cried off, and in any case it would have been difficult for the planters to put a team into the field for such a long period as would have been necessary.

There is no reason, however, why a match should not be arranged with Madras one week end, and we hear of one district prepared to put up five men. The Honorary Secretary of the Inter-District Sports Committee would be glad to hear of any other players, willing and available.

## TEA FOR THE ARGENTINE—

Some time ago we offered to put planters into communication with a buyer in the Argentine. The introduction came through a well known bank, but in spite of this, and in spite of private enquiries which appeared quite satisfactory, at least one planter who despatched tea has been 'bitten,' the bill drawing on the buyer's bankers having been dishonoured.

## THE PRODUCE MARKETS—

Latest advices from home show a continued firmness in the tea market, but the tendency in coffee is for lower prices. At the moment, of course, East Indians are scarce, and consequently are changing hands at good rates. The grocer's policy for the present is, therefore, to buy only for immediate requirements.

## OVER-PRODUCTION OF QUININE—

We find the following in the "Indian and Eastern Druggists" number for January:—"There appears to be a likelihood of over-production, in the near future, of cinchona and the quinine alkaloids in the Dutch East Indies. During recent years there has been a great extension of the area devoted to cinchona plantations in this district, with the result that supplies of cinchona and quinine may possibly soon exceed the world's demands. A consequence would be a fall in prices, and to obviate this, the quinine producers are recommending that no new cinchona plantations are to be opened for the present." And Rubber growers, on the other hand, seem as far off acting in unity as ever they were, says the *Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal*.

## BARK RENEWAL AND COAL TAR—

Dr. A. Steinmann, writing in the "Archief Voor de Rubbercultuur," has some very interesting remarks concerning the influence of coal tar on the renewing bark of *Hevea Brasiliensis*. He says that Dr. Harmsen having recommended coal tar to obtain a quicker bark renewal on the tapping surface, the purpose of his investigation was to find out whether tar produced a change in the anatomical structure of the bark, and also to determine whether this tar treatment should be recommended for estate practice. The tar used in Dr. Steinmann's experiments was furnished by the gas actory at Batavia, and he found that it penetrated on the tapping



cut to a depth of 0.5mm.; at 1 cm. above the cut, to 0.25mm.; whereas at a height of 6cm. above the cut it did not even penetrate through the cork layer, the results agreeing in general with those of similar experiments carried on by Mr. T. Petch, whose name is now so familiar in the rubber world owing to his valuable book on the "Physiology and Diseases of *Hevea Brasiliensis*." As to the results obtained by Dr. Steinmann, he states that he found an increase in thickness of the bark could be obtained by the use of coal tar, and that this increase is due only to the accelerated activity of the cork cambium or phellogen. The phellogen, he found, produced an unusually large mass of phelloderm tissues, many cells of which eventually go over into stone cells. Finally, Dr. Steinmann states that, because no increase in the stock or latex bearing portion occurs, he does not advise tarring the tapping area regularly each month, in order to obtain a quicker development of growth of the bark.

#### DIRECTORS AND RESTRICTION—

The *Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal* writes:—So far as new agreements to restrict rubber outputs for the next six months are concerned, the general view appears to be in favour of a go as you please policy. The big groups appear to favour continued restriction in principle, but a resumption of full tapping by any large number of companies would probably cause a degree of over-production sufficient to undo all the good that has been done by the policy of the past year. It is significant that, owing to cheap production, Ceylon opinion is strongly opposed to any form of restriction either voluntary or compulsory. On the other side, the emigration of Indian coolies from Malaya will not improbably be found to have given rise to a difficult situation when any attempt is made to resume full production. Some of the best authorities in London favour the principle of the scheme put forward in these columns by Mr. E. G. Money for control of production in the Crown colonies by an export duty on rubber above a given quantity, the ratios of which for different estates would be worked out by local committees. The machinery for such a scheme is already in existence. It is believed in London that the Malayan Government would readily put such a method in operation, but the backing of the Colonial Office would be necessary. To this end, the report of the committee now sitting is awaited, and some recommendation on the lines indicated would not be surprising.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 6 OF 1922. (5TH—11TH FEBRUARY, 1922.)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left for Pusa on 8th February, and will not be back at head-quarters till the end of the month. Letters will be regularly forwarded to Mr. Anstead by his office, but correspondents are asked to remember that it is a five days' post to Pusa, and that nothing can reach him between 17th and 26th February.

2. PLANTING IN UGANDA.—The Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture in the Uganda Protectorate for 1920, has just been received. There appears to be 173 estates in the hands of Europeans, representing 26,353 acres under cultivation with the following crops:—

	Acres.
Coffee Arabica over 2 years old ... ..	16,877
"    "    under 2 years old ... ..	2,116
Coffee Robusta over 2 years old ... ..	120
"    "    under 2 years old ... ..	140

Hevea over 5 years old, 6,389 acres, of which 4,180 acres are interplanted with Coffee.

Hevea under 5 years old, 7,044 acres, of which 5,970 acres are interplanted with Coffee.

In addition to this, there are 2,883 acres of Cacao, of which 1,479 acres are interplanted with Hevea.

In the hands of Natives, there are 893 acres of Hevea, 1,009 acres of other kinds of rubber, and 12,804 acres of Coffee. There are also about 1,790 acres of Coffee Arabica, 36 acres of Robusta, and 420 acres of Hevea, of which 370 are interplanted with Coffee in the hands of Indians. The following are the figures of exports: —

		1919 —20.	1920 to 31st Dec.
Coffee, husked	...	54,694 cwts.	21,399 cwts.
parchment	...	4,266 cwts.	2,373 cwts.
Rubber, wild	...	2,089 lbs.	1,890 lbs.
plantation	...	388,523 lbs.	312,659 lbs.

Coffee, being grown without shade, soil erosion is apt to take place, and to prevent this, lines of lemon grass planted across the slopes have been tried with some success, but where close to the Coffee the latter is deleteriously affected. No mention is made of any trials of green dressings or cover crops.

Shade is now being experimented with, *Grevillea robusta*, *Leucaena glauca* and various species of *Erythrina* and *Albizia* being used. It is said that *Grevillea* has the drawback of dropping its leaves on to the Coffee bushes, where they remain and harbour pests.

Leaf disease followed by a die back due to a *Colletotrichium* is responsible for most of the damage done by pests of Coffee. Robusta is said to suffer less from leaf disease than Arabica, but it is necessary to obtain seed from reliable sources in order to get a good strain. A number of insect pests unknown to us attack the Coffee, among which are fruit flies and borers. Thrips and the variegated bug (*Antestia orbitalis*) appear to be the most important.

At Kekumiro, Nubendi, Hevea planted in 1906 had attained an average girth of 34½ inches in 1920, and trees planted in 1915 had attained a girth of 13'46 inches.

A number of tapping experiments have been conducted, but these do not call for any particular remark, except that the number of cuts to the inch appear to us to be very few, ranging as they do from 22 to as low as 10 with an average round about 13 or 14. It appears, however, difficult to be able to train good tapper. The same conclusions seem to have been reached in Uganda, which had been reached here some time ago, viz., that the basal V has nothing to recommend it, and that two cuts are a mistake. One cut on a half with alternate day tapping has given good results. On the whole, one cut on a third, tapped daily or on alternate days appears to give the best results, but it is remarked that this system uses up too much bark, and does not give a sufficient time for renewal. This, however, is due to bad tapping, and not getting a sufficient number of cuts to the inch.

Black Thread, due to a species of *Phytophthora*, is troublesome, and Brown Bast has made its appearance. Root diseases, due to *Hymenochactaenoxia* and *Sphacrostilbe ripens* are also present, but no *Ustilina* has as yet been reported,



Tea is in the experimental stage at present. As in India, it is attacked by Brown Blight and Mosquito Blight,

### 3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (29th January—4th February).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, hot weather conditions prevail. Mulching work has been completed, and the sample bushes of coffee taken from each plot have been pounded out and cleaned. An experiment with artificial cattle manure has been started.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a little rain amounting to 1'95 inches has been received. This was badly needed, and has done a lot of good to the bushes. 630 lbs. of green leaf have been plucked from 10'15 acres. Catching of *Helopeltis* has been continued. An experiment with artificial cattle manure has been started.

At the *Rubber Experiment Stations*, there is little to report. The trees are getting their new foliage. At Tenmalai, there was a light shower amounting to 0'31 inch. The total crop obtained from the Mooply Station during the past year, was 3,073 lbs. of dry rubber. The wet weights were 3,206 lbs. 15 oz. of sheet, and 550 lbs. 12 oz. of scrap, so that there was a loss on drying of 684 lbs. 11 oz. or 18'22 per cent. The percentage of scrap to total rubber (wet weight) was 14'65 per cent.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

Coimbatore,  
15th February, 1922.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT NO. 40.

1. RAILWAY RATES ON TEA.—With reference to Item No. 2 of Report No. 37, dated 1-12-1921, the South Indian Railway Company write as follows :—

"I beg to inform you that, on and from 1st April, 1922 when surcharge will be withdrawn, the existing station-to-station rates for Tea from Kodaikanal Road, etc., to Tuticorin will be revised as under, the conditions as to minimum weight, risk and loading remaining the same as advised in this Office letter, R. 6845/59 of 28-11-1921 :—

From	To	Revised rate per maund.		
		Rs.	A.	P.
Kodaikanal Road	Tuticorin.	0	3	8
Tenmalai		0	3	8
Trivandrum		0	6	10
Dindigul		0	3	11

2. **TEA STATISTICS.**—The Report on the production of tea in India for the calendar year 1920 has just been received from the Department of Statistics. The figures given for Southern India of Area and Production are:—

District.	Total Area	Area Plucked	Production
	Acres.	Acres.	Lbs.
Nilgiris ...	17,318	13,764	6,403,866
Malabar ...	11,084	9,049	3,466,616
Coimbatore ...	12,710	7,155	2,377,138
Madura ...	37	37	8,135
Travancore ...	47,105	41,823	23,399,123
Total ...	88,254	71,828	35,654,878

The Director of Statistics points out that, whereas in Northern India, only 4 estates out of 1,192 failed to submit returns, in Southern India no less than 35 estates out of a total 300 submitted no returns, and had to be estimated.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.

### THE ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE ANAMALLAI CLUB, ON JANUARY 31ST, 1922, AT 2 P. M.

PRESENT.—Messrs. J. Hatton Robinson, (Chairman), A. V. Danagher, C. L. Napier, A. C. Cotton, S. Sladden, J. E. Carless, E. H. Francis, C. K. Pittock, J. H. Ireland-Jones, C. W. R. Tyler, E. N. House and D. Cooper, (Honorary Secretary).

VISITORS.—Members of Labour Commission.

Messrs J. S. Nicolls, W. A. Lee and E. Lord.

The Chairman in opening the Meeting welcomed the members of the Labour Commission, and thanked them for coming here.

Mr. Nicolls, replying, said they had not come to criticise, but to help, and trusted their efforts would be of use to the community in general, and help keep the U. P. A. S. I. united.

The Labour Commission then questioned members on the Labour Department questionnaire, at length.

The Chairman, in closing the Meeting, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Commission for their public spirited services to the planting community of Southern India in general.

(Signed) J. HATTON-ROBINSON,  
Chairman.

( ) DUDLEY COOPER,  
Honorary Secretary.



## WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB, ON THE 8TH FEBRUARY, 1922, AT 2 P. M.

**PRESENT.**—Messrs. C. E. Abbott, (Chairman), B. Malcolm, J. C. Blackham, P. A. Naylor, T. P. Gauld, B. M. Behr, S. H. Powell, W. G. Craig, B. D. Darkin, and J. A. Gwynne, Honorary Secretary.

Proceedings of the last ordinary General Meeting and the Extraordinary General Meeting were confirmed.

**GENERAL COMMITTEE, U. P. A. S. I.**—Mr. Behr agreed to attend the Meeting on 22nd and 23rd instant. The Meeting discussed the Agenda, and decided to leave the decision on various points to the discretion of the delegate.

**INCORPORATION.**—As various interests still withhold their consent, the matter cannot be proceeded with at present.

**MOPLAH LABOUR.**—Circular from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., was read which outlined a scheme to place gangs of short term prisoners on Estates. The Meeting was of the opinion that the Government should not release any of these prisoners within the period of their sentence for work on Estates in Malabar.

**PUTHUPADI HOTEL.**—Letter from C. Sankaran, the butler, was read, and the meeting unanimously agreed to continue his allowance of Rs 15 per month, in virtue of his past services to the Community.

**U. P. A. S. I. TENNIS TOURNAMENT.**—Read letter from the Honorary Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. Inter-District Tennis Tournament, and the Meeting agreed to pay a Rs. 10 subscription for this year's Tournament.

**SALE OF FACTORY SWEEPINGS.**—Circular from the Secretary, Indian Tea Association, was read protesting against the sale of sweepings and refuse unless for exportation for chemical purposes.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL PLANTING DISTRICTS.**—Read letter from Mr. Anstead intimating his inability to visit this District at present, but that he hopes to do so towards the end of the year.

**THE REBELLION.**—The meeting was unanimously of the opinion, and instructed the Honorary Secretary to write this to the Collector of Malabar, that either Military or Reserve Police should be stationed at Puthupadi to protect coolies coming to the Estates, and keep communications open.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

(Signed) C. E. ABBOTT,  
Chairman.

( „ ) J. A. GWYNNE,  
Honorary Secretary.

## RUBBER AND PROPAGANDA.

### ATTITUDE OF THE MANUFACTURER.

There appears to be a real danger (says the "Financial Times") of rubber propaganda becoming a "blessed word" like Mesopotamia, and the differences between the Rubber Growers' and Rubber Shareholders' Associations developing into a split, which will ultimately do more harm than good to the industry. As the position stands, the Rubber Growers' Association has the advantage of accumulated knowledge and experience and the Rubber Shareholders' Association that of youth and enthusiasm. The main difficulty in the way of rubber propaganda lies in the fact that pure rubber does not go directly into consumption, and any attempts to increase its uses must be made through the channels of manufactured articles. For this purpose the co-operation of the manufacturer is necessary. The R.G.A. has found that personal contact is required to enlist the sympathy of the manufacturer, and for a long time past has been doing good work in this direction.

### R. G. A. ACHIEVEMENTS.

In its propaganda scheme formulated in July, 1921, when the propaganda department was established on its present basis—not 1920, as inadvertently stated in this column last week—the Rubber Growers' Association planned out a number of developments, all of which hinge very largely on the question of co-operation with manufacturers. Among the actual achievements of the Rubber Growers' Association may be mentioned the production of crude rubber products, which will shortly be seen in the shop at 40, Fenchurch-street, E. C. 3; the exploitation of rubber linoleum, which is now being manufactured by twelve different firms; the publicity given to the Peachey process; rubber pavements, of which the platform to be laid down at Euston Station is an example, and the establishment of a panel of experts, with the retention of the services of Dr. Stevens, to investigate and report on all suggestions for new uses. Schemes have been submitted to the Government of Malaya, Ceylon, India and the Netherlands Indies, and steps taken for the exchange of views with the Rubber Association of America.

### THE MANUFACTURER'S VIEW.

The main objection raised by the manufacturer to a widespread publicity campaign is that the multiplicity of his products and the high overhead charges prevent an adequate outlay for this purpose. The Rubber Growers' Association has become aware, through its investigations, that to carry out an extensive advertising campaign would demand unlimited financial resources. Considering that 20 per cent. of rubber is a high estimate of the content in manufactured rubber goods, it may be asked whether it is fair to expect the producer to stand more than that proportion of the total outlay on propaganda. From this point of view the entire sympathy of the manufacturer is more than ever essential.

It has already been pointed out that a fusion of the Rubber Shareholders' Association and the Rubber Growers' Association could be obtained by members of the Shareholders' Association joining the Growers' in sufficient numbers to give them representation on the council as well as on the



various committees. If shareholders desire an infusion of fresh blood into the Rubber Growers' Association for "gingering up" purposes, why should they not join in sufficient numbers to make their voices heard, and infuse new energy into the latter organisation?

#### QUALITY IN RUBBER.

The complaint of the quality of ordinary manufactured rubber goods, which appeared in a letter published in our issue of 3rd January, is very timely in the present situation of the industry. The admixture of fillers and other "foreign substances" with rubber is no doubt inevitable in many circumstances, but for the great bulk of manufactured articles the rubber content could be largely increased with advantage. The introduction of goods made of pure rubber will virtually initiate a new industry, and if properly handled should create an entirely new demand.

In face of the world-wide utility of rubber goods of all kinds, and the undoubted demand that exists for innumerable products made of rubber, to talk of over-production is a mis-statement of the case. The term is hardly admissible when a potential demand exists such as is undeniable in the case of a commodity like rubber. What is really wrong is that for a large number of commodities demand has not been properly catered for. The public want rubber goods of a cheap, and, at the same time, attractive kind. Too much is made of durability. Take for instance, rubber floor-coverings. The average housewife does not want an article that will last for ever. What is really desired is something low in price and of pleasing appearance that will last a reasonable time, and of which the original cost is not too heavy to permit of replacement after a period of wear.

#### AGE OF RUBBER TREES.

The productive life of a rubber tree is still a somewhat uncertain quantity, and the bearing of this factor on future production has not often been taken into consideration. Recently the question was discussed by Mr. C. R. Gilliat at the Sembilan meeting. Rubber trees, it was pointed out, could not be expected to live for ever, and references are made from time to time to the replanting of certain areas. Mr. Gilliat, indeed, expressed his belief, that on the majority of estates yields from the older fields were actually on the decline. Should the maximum yield on large areas of the oldest rubber have already been reached, and production from these areas be likely to show a falling off from now onwards, the figures of future production will obviously be very considerably affected. Mr. Gilliat assumed that, as the increase from more recently planted areas would almost be counterbalanced by the decrease in older areas, it need not be feared that supplies from existing plantations would materially increase beyond their present normal output.

On this basis it would appear that the natural increase of outputs, which has been something of a bugbear in considerations of future production, may be largely discounted, and anticipations for the future may be based with reasonable safety on the existing planted area. So far as it goes this is distinctly a bull point for the rubber market.

### SOIL DEFICIENCIES.

The base of all agricultural practice is the soil ; upon the capacity and proper management of soils all success in agriculture primarily depends. The plant secures from the soil and the air some fifteen different elements — and from these it adds to its growth. By a chemical analysis we find what different elements plants contain and the quantities such as lime, iron, nitrogen, phosphorus, etc. From studies made during the last one hundred years it has been found that of the different substances going into the composition of plants, the three which are most likely to be deficient in average soils are nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash. Soils may be benefitted by the addition of other elements, as lime, but it is believed to be due more to their physical action than the fact that the plant actually needs more of such elements than are already available in the soil.

In general a fertilizer may be said to be anything that improves the capacity of the soil to grow plants. A fertilizer may do this by, first, adding to the soil an element that is lacking and that is needed by the plants ; or second, by improving the physical condition of the soil so that plants may take therefrom certain elements that are thereby rendered available. Moreover, certain fertilizers contain small organisms known as bacteria, which set free in the soil elements needed by the plant. It is largely for this reason and because of the decaying vegetable matter in it which improves the physical condition of the soil that manure makes one of the best fertilizers.

The elements of plant food most likely to be needed in soils are nitrogen, phosphorus, potash. Very good soils need all three of these, and in many instances lime also. Therefore, in improving the soil we must seek out and apply especially all the nitrogen, phosphorus and potash that we can find.

There is a fairly prevalent idea among farmers that a chemical analysis will show what a soil needs. This is only true in part, as a chemical analysis may show a certain element present, and yet owing to certain combinations in the soil the plant cannot secure it. By far the better way is to apply fertilizers of different composition and note the results on small portions of the land. This the planter can carry out himself, and in doing it he is studying all the conditions that influence his particular farm and crop.

Suppose a portion of a field is divided into a series of ten twentieth-acre plots. These plots are fertilized as follows :—

- No. 1—Nothing.
- No. 2 Nitrate of soda, 8 pounds ; equal to 160 pounds per acre.
- No. 3—Acid phosphate, 16 pounds ; equal to 320 pounds per acre.
- No. 4—Nitrate of potash, 8 pounds ; equal to 160 pounds per acre.
- No. 5—Nothing.
- No. 6—Nitrate of soda, 16 pounds ; acid phosphate, 16 pounds.
- No. 7—Nitrate of soda, 16 pounds ; muriate of potash, 8 pounds.
- No. 8—Acid phosphate, 32 pounds ; muriate of potash, 8 pounds.
- No. 9—Nitrate of soda, 8 pounds ; acid phosphate, 16 pounds ;  
muriate of potash, 8 pounds.
- No. 10—Nothing.

To one series of plots lime is also added to note its influence on the crops. It will be noted that these quantities are rather large, larger in fact than the farmer will use in general practice, but they are made so in order that the indications may be plain. This farmer should take note of the condition of his plots from time to time, and by this means he can soon see



what his particular soil and crop will need, and from the harvest from the crops on these small areas he can form some idea as to profit or loss.

Such experiments will save large sums to the farmer who is going to use fertilizers to any extent, and, moreover, it will teach him to observe and to follow a more rational scheme of agriculture.

In applying fertilizers that should be broad-casted and harrowed in for small grains that stand close upon the ground. For cane they should be applied in the hill as a rule, and they should be so placed that the plant will get the greatest benefit from them without reference to any crops that may follow. The fertilizers not only diffuse themselves through the ground, but the roots of the plants will seek out the fertilizers. It is advisable on hill lands to bury the fertilizer to guard against leaching by the rains.

Some definite scheme for fertilizing as has been outlined is far better than to follow a hit or miss plan of using a fertilizer without knowing the demands of the soil and crop. The soil may need only the one element, while the planter may be adding all three. Of course, in such cases, he is adding elements that do not make any definite return, and he is therefore making an outlay that is not justified, but by starting with small areas and using different combinations of fertilizing elements he can determine what his soils need without being liable to any appreciable loss. He can begin with the natural fertilizers, as manures, bat guanos, etc., that are within reach and use commercial fertilizers only as he finds it profitable to do so.

While it is doubtless true that most of our soils need nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash, and many of them lime, yet profitable combination is liable to vary very much, not only with different soils, but with different crops. It is found that different crops require more of one element and less of another. For example, maize requires all three—nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash—in liberal quantities; beans and clovers, should have phosphorus and potash and be allowed to secure their nitrogen from the air. These crops will, for about every 30 pounds of phosphorus and 100 pounds of potash, require 100 pounds of nitrogen. Of this latter they are probably getting a larger part from the air, which means clear gain of the most expensive element.—SOUTH AFRICAN SUGAR JOURNAL, Vol. 5, No. 10.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

### U. P. A. S. I. Head Office Expenditure.

Sir,—I think it is to be regretted that Messrs. Vincent and Murphy thought it advisable to publish the letter which appears under their joint names in your issue of the 11th inst. before the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Commission report had been circulated.

I will not attempt to refute any of the statements which appear in the letter, excepting to say in my opinion they are misleading, as although it shows the increase in Head Office Expenditure it omits to give any reasons why this was a necessity—and the reasons cannot be unknown to either Messrs. Vincent or Murphy. The figures given cover the three years I was Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I., and it was from the experience I gained in those years, that made me recognise that without the Planting Community

was prepared to put forward more money than that required to maintain a receiving and forwarding Office, we had better draw down the shutters of the U. P. A. S. I. and face the alternative—one does exist, and I for one hope the planting community will not force it into being.

I imagine it would be no easy matter in these days to find a planter who could give the time or be prepared to pay a considerable amount of money out of his own pocket—which it was necessary for him to do—as Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I., anyhow in the years when I had that honour. The work of the Chairman under the re-organised U. P. A. S. I. has no doubt gained its right position, and planters are now paying for what they in the past received for nothing.

In case there are planters who think that it was not necessary for a Chairman to give up much of his time; to me it meant five hours daily, and very often more—which time had to be found after my daily planting work was over. I hope one of the means that Messrs. Vincent and Murphy have suggested for cutting down expenditure will not be taken up by owners of Estates, *i. e.* to reduce Superintendent's salaries. I should not like to pay Bungalow rent, etc.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. S. NICOLLS.

### Coffee Hybrids.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Wilkins raises an interesting point in your issue of the 7th of January as to how Messrs. Jackson's and Kent's Selected coffee compare.

There is a small clearing on this Estate of Kent's Selected planted in 1917 from netted seed from the original trees, I understand. With a friend, the other day we made a careful count as to the proportion of really first class plants there were, and decided it was rather over 50%. The balance plants were at least as good as 'ordinary coffee,' though below the high standard of the others. This count was made where the plants had grown under an even shade from time of planting. A part of the clearing is without shade, but on a N. face. The growth has been wonderful. The plants have cropped well for the past three years. They get leaf disease, but though in the open throw it off. The most noticeable feature is that some of the best trees this year, though very little shaded, have cropped heavily, and have no leaf disease, and are in for another good crop.

The coffee is not of one type. There are about 5% typical "Chik" trees. Very fine growth and crop, but like their originals suffer from Leaf Disease. There are the drooping Coorg, but the majority are of the spreading Coorg type, 10 and 12 feet spread, and apparently immune from leaf disease.

Vacancies planted among old coffee, where they get plenty of light, have come on well. Along bad edges at three years old they stand out apart from all the other coffee. There is no doubt that, with Kent's one can grow vacancies three or four years quicker than with 'Common Coffee', and more effectively.

Can one of your readers give us information as to how Jackson's compare for Type, crop, growth and Leaf disease?

Yours faithfully,

N. KIRWAN.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

*Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.*

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 17th February, 1922.

120s./- per cwt. Market firm.

## THE U. P. A. S. I.

### An Unveiling Ceremony.

The offices of the U. P. A. S. I. in Coimbatore were the scene on Wednesday last of a pleasant little ceremony when the Chairman of the Association, Mr. H. L. Pinches, unveiled a very fine portrait of Sir Fairless Barber, Kt.

The walls of the Committee room are now almost covered with a most interesting series of portraits of past Chairmen and Planting Members, group photos of delegates to Annual Meetings, and a number of other inter-

esting mementos of the history of the U. P. A. S. I. To the long list of portraits of South Indian Planters who have devoted their time and intellect to U. P. A. S. I. affairs is now added that of Sir Fairless Barber, who was Planting Member of Council, Madras, from 1912 to 1919. Unlike the majority of his predecessors Sir Fairless Barber has never held the Office of Chairman. He was a Vice-Chairman in 1911—1912 when in the latter year he succeeded Mr. J. G. Hamilton as the Association's representative at Fort St. George. For seven long years, including those trying years of the great War, Sir Fairless, or Mr. E. F. Barber, as he was then, watched the interests of the planting community in a manner worthy of the high traditions of his office. His quiet and unassuming, but none the less telling manner, was not perhaps calculated to advertise his very great worth, and it is possible there are some planters who do not fully realise what a mainstay he was to the Executive of the U. P. A. S. I. during that difficult period. The honour which was conferred on him at the end of his term of office was never more deserved, as all planters who have studied Upasi affairs in any degree will readily admit.

Mr. Pinches, addressing the large and representative gathering, said that he had over-estimated the extra work which he had thought acceptance of the Chairmanship would entail. The Secretary and his Assistant he found did all the work, leaving to him the pleasant duties. This ceremony was one of them, and it was with very great pleasure that he would unveil the portrait of Sir Fairless Barber, than whom no one had done more for the planting community and who had been of such great help during his term of office in guiding the United Planters' Association through the quicksands which beset it. He did not think a more fitting way could be found of honouring Sir Fairless Barber, and indeed themselves, than by adding his portrait to the number of distinguished planters whose portraits already adorn the walls of the Committee room. Sir Fairless Barber, he said, was planting member of Council from 1912 to 1919, and for this long period of service planters owed him a very great debt of gratitude. He felt sure they would agree that he had fully earned the reward of the Knighthood which had been conferred upon him.

Mr. Pinches recalled his friendship with Sir Fairless as far back as 1893, in Ceylon. He was considerably younger then, but even so had that marked and charming personality which had endeared him and still endears him to his many friends. He had much pleasure in unveiling the portrait. (Applause).

The Secretary said that he was sorry Sir Fairless Barber was not present. He had received a letter from Sir Fairless thanking them for the honour which they were doing him, but, funking, rather, the ordeal.

The large gathering included Mr. H. L. Braidwood, Collector of Coimbatore, The Rev. G. A. A. and Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Byers, Mrs. Waddington, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hatton Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Miller, Mrs. Pinches, Messrs. Hawkins, S. O'm Deane, H. Champion, E. Dickens, C. C. Kent, A. C. Morrell, J. A. Richardson, M. L. C., E. W. Simcock, J. J. B. Wallace, A. Yates, A. S. Dandison, F. H. Farmer, R. Fowke, J. Aird, B. M. Behr, E. C. Sylvester, C. H. Godfrey, H. S. Dickens, Col. W. L. Crawford, D.S.O., and Messrs. Waddington, Brock and Vincent of the U. P. A. S. I. staff.



## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

Coimbatore,

22nd February, 1922.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT No. 41.

1. SHIPPING FREIGHTS.—The Steamship Lines have announced that they will carry cargoes of Tea and Rubber to London until further notice at the reduced rate of 50 shillings per ton of 50 C. Ft. The reduction comes into force at once, and will be applicable to the next steamer loading for the United Kingdom, which is expected to be the s. s. "Clan Ogilvy," due at Cochin to-day.

2. ACT I OF 1903.—G. O. No. 400, dated 15th February, 1922, Law (General) Department, reads as follows :—

"The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English, Malayalam, Kanarese and Tamil. The notification will also be published in the Nilgiri District Gazette."

## NOTIFICATION.

Under Section 4 of the Madras Planters' Labour Act, the Governor-in-Council is pleased to authorize Mr. John William Harden Bradshaw, Superintendent, Mango Range Group of Estates, to attest the execution of labour contracts.

(By order of the Governor-in-Council).

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary,  
U. P. A. S. I.

## NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Minutes of a Quarterly General Meeting of the Nilgiri Planters' Association, held at the Collector's Office, Ootacamund, on Thursday the 2nd of February, 1922.*

PRESENT.—Messrs. A. K. Weld Downing (Chairman), E. Sydenham Clarke, W. A. Cherry, Major J. B. Leslie Rogers, Percy Reed, N. J. Stanes, J. Beaver Vernede, A. S. Dandison, Phil Beaver, W. Deane.

VISITOR.—A. L. Hearn, Esq.

Letter regretting inability to attend received from Mr. L. F. Lake and Mr. F. H. Farmer (Honorary Secretary.)

## PROCEEDINGS.

Before proceeding with the Agenda of the Meeting the Chairman spoke as follows :—

Gentlemen,—Since our last Meeting another Member of our community has passed away. I refer to the late Mr. W. B. De'Coursey, and I propose asking our Honorary Secretary to write to his relatives expressing the loss this Association has sustained, and offering our sincere sympathies to them.

The Meeting signified its assent, all Members standing.

1. The Notice calling the Meeting was read.

2. Proceedings of the previous Extraordinary General Meeting, held at the Collector's Office at Ootacamund on the 28th of January, 1922 were confirmed: The Chairman said he regretted that no Committee Meeting has been held at Coonoor, as stated in the Notice to the Committee Members, on account of the Honorary Secretary's illness.

3. NILGIRI NON-PLANTING AREA.—As no reply has been received from the U. P. A. S. I., the Honorary Secretary is asked to write again for a reply.

4. S. I. P. BENEVOLENT FUND.—The Chairman read the letter received by the Honorary Secretary of this Association from Mr. Brock on the 4th January, 1922, and also read the list of Members attached to the letter, and asked the members present to help the Fund by getting every Member to become a subscriber. The Honorary Secretary of this Association was asked to send out Notices to all Members of this Association, who are not subscribers, asking them to join and help the Fund, as it will be a great help to widening the work of the Fund.

ESTATE MEMBERS JOINED IN THIS MONTH AS SUBSCRIBERS OF THIS FUND.—1. Ibex Lodge Estate, 2. Nonsuch and Upper Droog Estates, and also one new personal Member, Mr. Bramelds. Two circulars were distributed to the Members present, one giving detail of life of the S. I. P. Benevolent Fund, and the other giving details of good work done. The Chairman asked the Honorary Secretary to send these forms to all Members who have not attended the Meeting.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS.—*Re.* one Estate, who refuses to pay the subscription, was brought up by the Honorary Secretary with full details of its subscriptions due, and the evidence of its joining the Association. The Chairman said that this has been placed in the hands of the U. P. A. S. I. with all necessary records, and the matter was placed before the Executive Committee Meeting, held on the 27th of January, 1922.

LIDDLESDALE ESTATE.—The U. P. A. S. I. asked the Honorary Secretary to find out who are the Executors of the late Mr. W. B. De'Coursey's property, and asked him to write to them. Messrs. Walker and Graham are the Executors, and he wrote to them about the claims, but no reply has been received from them. The letter dated 18th January 1922, from the U. P. A. S. I. *re* this was read by the Chairman.

WARWICK AND FAIRFIELD ESTATES.—Owing to the death of the Proprietor the Chairman proposed that all claims against them should be abandoned. All Members consented to this by show of hands.



6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBER.—In place of late Mr. G. F. Weston Elwes.

The Chair proposed Mr. Dandison to fill the vacancy. Mr. Dandison said that he would be glad to accept office, but wished it to be distinctly understood that it was only on the understanding that arrangements be made for the collection of *all* our subscriptions from the Head Office in Coimbatore.

7. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE.—Letter from the U. P. A. S. I., dated the 18th January, 1922 was read by the Chairman.

LETTER RE. INCORPORATION.—The Chairman read letter from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., dated the 19th of January, 1922, stating that they want a revised list of Promoters.

ELECTION OF PROMOTERS.—The following gentlemen were proposed and accepted as promoters :—Messrs. A. S. Dandison, W. A. Cherry, J. B. Vernede, P. Beaver, E. Sydenham Clarke, Norman Stanes, and A. K. Weld Downing (Chairman.)

KINLOCH FUND.—The Chairman read letter from Mrs. Kinloch thanking the Members of this Association for the prompt help they have rendered to her.

ATTIKAN AND HONNAMETTI ESTATES.—Application of these Estates to join as Members of this Association. The Honorary Secretary of the N. P. A. wrote to the Honorary Secretary of South Mysore Planters' Association on the 31st of January, 1922, but no reply has been received from them. The Chairman asked the Honorary Secretary to write to them direct for their acreage, declarations, etc.

Letter of sympathy to Mrs. G. F. Weston Elwes was read.

LETTER OF EXCHANGE.—The Members thanked Mr. Waddington for having taken the trouble of sending the copies of correspondence. The Chairman proposed that the matter be left to individuals to deal with.

The Agenda of the Meeting to be held on the 22nd of Feb. 1922, at Coimbatore was read by the Chairman, and the Delegates instructed according to the wishes of those Members present.

THE COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTION BY COIMBATORE.—Replies from District Associations to letter informing them of our acceptance of offer, and asking their opinion on same. Letters received from Coorg, Nilgiri-Wynaad were read by the Chairman, and they are favourable to this suggestion. Shevaroy's wrote against the suggestion, that letter also read. No replies received from Wynaad, South Travancore, North Mysore and South Mysore.

The Delegates were instructed to, if possible, conclude arrangements for this while at Coimbatore for the General Committee Meeting to be held on the 22nd February, 1922.

8. DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD AT COIMBATORE ON THE 22ND OF FEBRUARY, 1922.—Mr. Vernede said that in all probability it would be impossible for him to attend. Mr. Dandison was therefore elected in his place; the Chairman suggested that, as Mr. Farmer was on the sick list, it would be advisable for the Meeting to elect a "Waiting Member" in case it was found that at the last moment

Mr. Farmer was unable to attend. Mr. Vernede said that, if Mr. Farmer was unable to go then he would attend with Mr. Dandison.

*Re.* the letter of the Collector of Nilgiris about the WORKMEN'S BREACH OF CONTRACT ACT, No. XIII OF 1859.

The Chairman wrote to the Collector :—"I have the honour to report that at the Meeting of this Association held here to-day, it was decided that the matter be referred to the U. P. A. S I., Coimbatore for them to deal with, with Government direct."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) A. K. Weld Downing,

Chairman, N. P. A.

Before closing the Meeting the Chairman said he would like to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary for all the trouble he had taken to prepare notes, etc., for his guidance regarding matters coming before to-day's Meeting, and hoped that they would before long have Mr. Farmer amongst them again.

Carried with acclamations.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Collector for the use of the room, the Meeting terminated.

(Signed) A. K. WELD DOWNING,

Chairman.

## RUBBER RESTRICTION.

### THE CHURCHILL COMMITTEE.

Several prominent Ceylon residents returned to the Island to-day by the Bibby liner "Oxfordshire," and amongst them was Mr. Walter Shakspeare, of Messrs. Carson & Co., Ltd.

Interviewed by a representative of the *Times of Ceylon*, Mr. Shakspeare said there was little he could add to the knowledge already possessed by Ceylon residents concerning the general trade position at Home.

Mr. Shakspeare was asked whether he had any information to impart concerning the deliberations of the Committee appointed by Mr. Winston Churchill last October for the purpose of investigating the present rubber situation in British Colonies and Protectorates, and to advise the Secretary of State as to what measures should be taken to bring about an improvement.

Mr. Shakspeare asked what information on this subject had been already received in Ceylon.

Our representative replied that no official information, except the bare announcement of the appointment of the Committee had been received here. However, a well-known Kuala Lumpur business man who passed



through this port recently had declared that the Committee is maintaining strict secrecy in regard to its deliberations, but that he confidently anticipated that some definite recommendations would be forthcoming shortly, as it was known that the Committee had been giving serious consideration to a scheme which practically involved compulsory restriction of output. This scheme proposes that, when the price of rubber is under 2s. and over 1s. 6d per lb., a prohibitive duty should be imposed upon all rubber exported over and above 75 per cent. of the normal output, and that when rubber falls below 1s. 6d. per lb. the prohibitive duty should apply to all rubber exported over and above 50 per cent. of the normal output.

Mr. Shakspeare said he understood that these were the general lines upon which the investigations had been conducted.

"Although," he added, "the Committee had not issued its report when I left London, it then appeared to be generally understood that the result of the Committee's deliberations would be abortive, as they had not, apparently, been able to secure the support of the Dutch."

Asked if he could say whether there was any truth in the rumour that a leading Colonial Office official had been sent to Java in this connection, Mr. Shakspeare replied in the negative, but added that he had reason to believe that strenuous efforts had been made to secure the support of the Dutch producers. On the day he left London it was indicated that these efforts had been abortive, which was to be regretted.

The fact that the rubber market had sagged since seemed to confirm this prevalent rumour. Mr. Shakspeare added that he was not speaking with any claim to expert knowledge.

Mr. Shakspeare remarked that perhaps this news would not cause any surprise or disappointment in Ceylon, as it appeared to him that the action taken by this Colony last year seemed to indicate an objection to restriction in any form.

It may be remembered by readers of this paper that Sir James Stevenson was the Chairman of the Winston Churchill Committee, and that the members included Sir Stanley Bois and Sir Edward Rosling.—*Times of Ceylon.*

## MANURES FOR COFFEE PLANTATIONS.

*From the Agricultural News.*

There appears to be no information available as to the effect over a sufficiently long period of the application of chemical manures on coffee, to admit of a favourable opinion or a recommendation for general use being given. Such active artificial manures as sulphate of ammonia, sulphate of potash, nitrate of soda, superphosphate, etc., are undoubtedly of value for annual crops, where immediate results are desirable, and the temporary character of the manure is of secondary consideration; but for coffee—or any other perennial plant—where a slower and more lasting effect is desirable—a similar value has not been established. It has in fact been stated that 'most decidedly the active artificial manures would not be suitable for

the coffee tree' (Sir John Lawes, 'Manures and Coffee,' in *Bull. Bot. Dept. Jamaica*, March 1897, p. 57), and much difference of opinion seems to prevail in all coffee-growing countries on this point.

The manures, however, that may be safely recommended, are those of an organic character, including prunings, leaves, weeds, coffee-pulp and other refuse obtained in the process of preparation of the bean, farmyard manure, green manures, bone, dried blood, oil-seed cake, guano, fish manure; to which may be added the inorganic substances, wood-ashes and lime.

Farm manures and green manures may not be practicable on all plantations; but in respect of the first, the suggestion of rotting down straw to take its place may be worthy of consideration—this is effected by a process recently discovered as the result of many years' investigation.\* Humification of the straw is brought about by a fermenting organism; but wet straw alone will not rot down, and some active form of nitrogen to start the process is required—this may be supplied by the urine from stock, or by passing sewage through a filter bed made up of straw. At Wainfleet (Lincolnshire) this method has been applied to deal with the sewage from a camp of some 200 men, and further trials are in progress to work out a method of making farmyard manure on a large scale without animals (see 'The Present Position of Research to Agriculture,' by Sir Daniel Hall, in *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, April 1, 1921, p. 305)

The selection, however, of any of the manures mentioned can only be decided on a knowledge of local conditions and under experiment, especially as regards convenience and cost.

A manure of considerable value may be made by mixing the pulp with bone-meal (in the proportion of about one part bone-meal and 20 parts coffee pulp) together with any general refuse from the plantation, heaped or buried under protection from sun and rain for several months—after the usual method of preparing manure heaps. When sufficiently decayed, it may be dug in round the trees, without injury to the roots, if possible, or laid on as a mulch.

The pulp, together with parchment and other refuse from the factory, is of value because of the nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash and lime it contains, and the bonemeal for the phosphoric acid, lime and nitrogen contained in it. The percentage of the constituents mentioned in the coffee-pulp are considerably higher in fresh material than after exposure to sun and rain for several months, and it is important to conserve them as above described. Any wood-ashes that may be available from burning rubbish on the plantation might be put into the manure heap, to increase the supply of potash. Slaked lime, when this is found necessary, (and tropical soils are very often deficient in this respect,) might be applied with advantage by distributing it over the whole plantation a few months before applying the mixed or other manures, at the rate of about 15 cwt. per acre, or with trees 9 feet by 9 feet, this would be approximately 3 lb. per tree.

Some guide to the requirements of the coffee trees may be found in the following table, from 'Le Cafe: Dans L'Etat de Saint Paul (Brésil),' by A. Leliere (Paris, 1909) p. 122:—

\*See "Agricultural News" for November 12, 1921.



The annual requirements of 1,000 coffee plants at different ages, of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid—the most important constituents taken up by them from the soil, are—

Age of Tree.	Nitrogen.	Potash.	Phosphoric acid.
	lb.	lb.	lb.
First 4 years ...	9'87	23'62	2'49
From 5 to 8 years ...	35'7	76 92	19'57
From 9 to 20 years ...	28'87	45'83	15'76
After 20 years (old trees) ...	5'09	30'53	9'48

Some further particulars will be found in the following works:—

'Potash: Its Distribution, Commercial Sources and Agricultural Value,' by Alfred Smetham, F. I. C., pp. 1-28, reprinted from the Journal of the Royal Lancashire Agric. Soc. for 1915 (Geo. Toulmin & Sons, 127 Fishergate, Preston)

'Le Café. Culture' etc, by Henri Lecomte, 'Chimie du Café et du Cafier', pp. 207-24 (Georges Carré et C. Naud 3, Rue Racine, Paris, 1899)

*Coffea arabica*; in 'The Commercial Products of India,' by Sir G. Watt.

'Manuring and Manures,' pp. 378-80 (John Murray, Albemarle St., London, 1908) with references to other works on the subject.

'Kaffee-Düngungsversuche' in Guatemala, by Gustav Holmrich, pp. 1-20—Reprint from *Tropenpflanzer*, Vol. V, No. 12, 1901.

'Versuche über die Verwendung von Kunstdünger in der Kultur des Kaffees,' by Gustav Holmrich, pp. 1-36—Reprint from *Tropenpflanzer*, Beihette, No. 4, 1908.

'Peat-Moss Litter Manure': with an Analysis of Farmyard Manure, *Kew Bull*, No. 8, 1911, pp 349-51.

'Green Manures,' *Kew Bull* No. 1, 1914, pp. 21-4.

'Coffee; Its Cultivation and Manuring in South India,' by R. D. Anstead, *Bull. Dept of Agric.*, Mysore, (General Series) No. 6, 1905.

'Artificial Farm-yard Manure', by H. B. Hutchinson, and E. H. Richards, Rothamsted Experimental Station, in *Journ. Ministry of Agric.*, XXVIII, August 1921, pp. 398-411

In connexion with the foregoing article, it may be mentioned that high grade coffee grows under soil conditions of a constantly moving water-supply. Planters in Guatemala, for instance, believe that it would be impossible for the trees to have time to absorb a soluble fertilizer like nitrate of soda before it got carried away through the light mountain-side soil. Mulching, however, is generally accepted as both beneficial and profitable.

## VULCANISATION OF RUBBER.

A paper on "Vulcanisation, Past, Present and Future," was read by Dr. Schidrowitz before the Institute of Rubber Industry, London, on January 11. The chair was taken by Mr. Cook, of Anderson Anderson and Anderson.

### THE CHANGED STATE.

In an attempt to define vulcanisation Dr. Schidrowitz said that, although we still knew comparatively little about the true inwardness of the chemistry and physics of vulcanisation, we did...at least know that it was not a simple or a definite chemical reaction. So much, at least, the study of organic accelerators has taught. If they took a mixing made with (an average) rubber and sulphur only and vulcanise it, approximately 100 parts of rubber would combine with 2.5 to 3 parts of sulphur before correct curing was attained. If to the same mixing be added a minute quantity—say,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1 per cent., or even less—of a violent accelerator, a fully vulcanised product could be obtained according to factory standards, with a proposition of "combined" sulphur of as little as 0.5 or even less per 100 parts of rubber. It was true that, physically and mechanically, the products were not identical but they were both fully cured, and the reaction, therefore, which had taken place could be the same in both instances.

It had indeed already been suggested that sulphur was merely a catalyst or polymerising agent, and that an accelerator merely exercised the same type of effect as the sulphur, but in a much higher degree, but in reply to this theory it might be pointed out that so far sulphur could not be dispensed with. He preferred, therefore, to define vulcanisation mainly in terms of its effect as follows:—

Vulcanisation is a process involving the interaction of rubber and of sulphur (or sulphur compound) which profoundly modifies and improves the thermal and physical properties of the rubber.

After describing the different methods of factory practice now in vogue, Dr. Schidrowitz went on to say:—If we compare the present with the past great strides have been made in regard to the control of the heat and of pressure during, and also of the length of the cure. It is to be hoped, however, that manufacturers as a body will avail themselves more freely in the future than they have in the past of the devices in this connection which are at their disposal.

### VARIETY OF METHODS.

Vulcanising methods were summarised by the lecturer under the following heads:—

(1) Ordinary hot cure, using a mix containing sulphur as such. (2) Sulphur bath cure—The goods are dipped into and maintained below the surface of molten sulphur. Excess of sulphur is subsequently removed by means of caustic soda. (3) Accelerated hot cure—The mix contains inorganic accelerators, such as mangnesia, lime and litharge, or organic accelerators. (4) Hot curing in solvents—The mix is "dissolved" in a solvent, and the solution heated in a pressure vessel by means of steam, or in a suitable container immersed below the surface of a liquid of high boiling point. (Stevens.) (5) Accelerated curing in the cold—(5a) Curing in the cold by means of ultraviolet rays—"Solutions" are subjected to the action of ultra-violet rays. (Bernstein and Helbronner)



Indirect methods are :—(6) Hot cure—Accelerators containing sulphur of which sufficient is split off at curing temperatures to produce vulcanisation. (Bruni ; Bedford.) (7) Cold curing by means of gases. (a) The goods are exposed alternately to  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ; sulphur in statu nascendi is formed and brings about vulcanisation. (Peachey) (b) "Solutions" containing suitable quantities of the gases (cf. 7a) are mixed. (Peachey).

Curing with substances other than sulphur includes the following :—

(8) Cold curing with sulphur chloride—The goods passed through or dipped in a solution of  $\text{S}_2 \text{Cl}_2$  in a suitable solvent. Or the goods are brushed over with a similar solution. (9) Vapour curing with sulphur chloride—The goods are exposed, in a suitably constructed chamber, to vapours of  $\text{S}_2 \text{Cl}_2$ , or more frequently to vapours of the latter somewhat diluted by the vapours of a solvent. (10) Curing with selenium. (Boggs.) (11) Curing with benzoyl-peroxide and other organic oxidising agents. (Ostromysslenski.)

#### DREAM OF THE FUTURE.

Having described the past, Dr. Schidrowitz turned to the future and described the Ideal-Omnium Rubber Works, Ltd., A.D. 1940—"Compared with the works with which I had been familiar," he said, "in the first and second decades of the nineteenth century, the exterior struck me as having indeed a strange appearance. Firstly, there were no chimneys. My guide, with a pitying smile, explained that there were no chimneys because they had no boilers. 'But what,' I asked, 'about your mills and calenders and vulcanizers?'"

"Each mill and calender," he explained, "is connected with its own small boiler; this is electrically heated and fitted with an automatic cut-out, which operates when the mill or calender has attained a definite heat. Subsequently the temperature is kept steady by a stream of warm water from a central tank. The latter is heated by means of powerful electrical elements, and is fitted with delicate thermostats.

"But the vulcanisers?" I hazarded.

"There is no such thing as steam curing nowadays," he replied. "The hot cure, where it is used, is run by means of hot or warm water."

"Everywhere—even in the mill rooms with their enclosed mixers and silent gears—one saw or felt that curious absence of the characteristics of the 1920 factory—noise, steam, solvent vapours, the dust of fillers. Above all, there was the evidence at every turn of electric power—electric power for heating shops and for heating mills, water, gases—electric drive for every machine, for runways—electric light for illumination and for some kinds of curing.

"'Tell me,' I said to my guide, 'how it is that you are able to use electricity so lavishly.'

"'It costs us,' he replied, 'about one-sixteenth of a penny per unit. On every coalfield there have been erected super-power stations, costing many millions apiece; several super-stations are worked by tidal power; the loss in transmission has been reduced to a minimum.'

"'But the capital cost,' I said, 'must have been enormous; what of the consequent overhead charges?'"

"'Ah, yes,' he replied, 'but the capital cost was defrayed out of the economies effected by a drastic reduction of the income-tax in 1922. . . ,'"

"'And then I woke up.'"

## SUPERFLUOUS DIRECTORS.

### LONDON OFFICE CHARGES.

In the search for economy in the running of rubber plantation companies just now, it is not surprising that attention should be more and more drawn to the surplus director. Many Companies have had to carry two or three directors whose only qualification was their share holding, and that often a minimum. The companies were promoted by financiers who secured perhaps a figure-head with planting associations, the rest of the board being mere nominees could not tell the difference between the *Ficus elastica* and the *Hevea Brasiliensis*. We long ago attacked this financial incubus, which succeeded in worrying the plantation manager without contributing to his efficiency. As a matter of fact estates have in the majority of cases been "run" almost entirely by the men on the spot, and their success apart from finance, has not been advanced by the board which claimed the credit. The "Manchester Guardian," in its "Commercial Supplement," has, we are glad to note, been devoting some strong articles to this question of "superfluous directors." Much might be done by amalgamations to save their fees, as well as the fees of the offices in which the companies are installed. London-end charges have always been a sore point both with manager and shareholders, and they became a sort of tragi-comedy when directors, a year or two ago, began to ask for increased fees in view of the increased cost of living, etc. When companies ask for more capital to enable them to tide over the crisis, particular attention might well be given to the item of London costs.—"R. A".—(Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(*The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.*)

Honnametti Estate,

Attikan P. O.,

15th February, 1922.

"Kent's Arabica."

Dear Sir,—Plants of "Kent's Arabica," now 18 months old, on this estate (Elevation—5000 ft.), show double the growth and strength compared with ordinary coffee of the same age.



**"Jackson's Hybrid."**

Plants of this variety are not doing so well, but these were planted under rather adverse conditions.

Yours faithfully,

RALPH C. MORRIS.

---

Honnametti Estate,

Attikan P. O.,

15th February, 1922.

**U. P. A. S. I. Head Office Expenditure.**

Dear Sir, —With regard to the letter headed "Upasi Head Office Expenditure" signed by Messrs. J. R. Vincent and J. J. Murphy in the *Planters' Chronicle*, dated February 11th, the last paragraph of this letter is interesting in that the signatories assert that "some Estates have already seceded from the District Associations in the Upasi." I think that many Planters will join with me in asking if this is really the case—since cases have occurred in which letters from members to District Associations, intimating their desire to withdraw their estates from the U. P. A. S. I. have elicited replies to the effect that, having guaranteed to support the U. P. A. S. I. for 5 years when they joined, their resignation could not be permitted.

If, as is stated, some Estates have been allowed to secede from the District Associations, why has this been refused in other cases?

Yours faithfully,

RALPH C. MORRIS.

(No Estates have been allowed to secede, and, as all estates guaranteed their subscriptions for five years, no resignations can or will be allowed until end of guaranteed period, with exception of those estates which have changed hands. Secretary, U. P. A. S. I.)

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Covercool, Somwarpet,

N. Coorg, 17—2—1922.

**U. P. A. S. I. Head Office Expenditure.**

Dear Sir,—It is to be hoped that Messrs. Vincent and Murphy's letter in your number of February 11th will drag forth into the light of day many more opinions bearing on the same subject. At last we have the facts, written with ability and moderation. As in England, so here. An exaggerated sense of their own importance has led our planting bureaucracy into a scale of expenditure that they must themselves now contemplate with

horror. India is always a year or two behind, and England is now determined to end this state of affairs, while we are still in the hey-day of bloated expenditure. But the writing is on the wall. This is comparing small things with great, but there is a fable about a frog and an ox.

As your correspondents say, constructive criticism is wanted, to find a better way, and what better way than conservatism? Conservatism means keeping to the old ways when proved to be sound. Let us restore to our local Associations their old power and independence with their moderate expenditure, and everyone loyal to them, as they cannot be loyal to a bloated nonentity. To amalgamate all South India with its varying conditions and products is as reasonable as to amalgamate S. India, Ceylon, the Straits, in fact the whole of the East. There would not be titles, free trips to Europe, or Geneva Conferences for the heads of local Associations, it is true. Our having a delegate to the Geneva Conference was heralded with a blast of trumpets in the "Chronicle." But do planters realise what this Conference stands for? It stands for an 8 hour day, endowment of maternity, full pay during sickness, and a few little things like that, all excellent in Utopia, but where is the money to come from?

As its name implies, it was the UPAS tree of the Labour Department that has strangled all the other activities and cost all the money. Let those who think it a good institution support it separately, as before, and let it stand or fall on its merits. Let our Scientific Officers cease to be a mere appurage of the Government of India and become our own servant again.

Two annas an acre, about, was the old rate of subscription. Allowing for increased costs and the need for scientific *research* and *original work*, and for advertising; eight annas an acre without the Labour Department should be sufficient. At present we advertise our precious selves, but not our products.

It apparently was not realised when an ambitious scheme of this sort was launched that it would soon raise a counter scheme, and coolies will soon have their own U.P.A.S.I., if they have not got it already. Formerly, the planter depended on his personal character for labour, just as he depended on his brains for the best and cheapest manures. But the Labour and Scientific Departments between them have tended to socialise everything, and have one standard for all the lowest.

Can anyone deny that the attempt to fill unpopular places with labour has resulted in an enormous increase of rates, or that insistence on analyses has resulted in the dealers taking that manure in which the unit was dearest and raising all manures to that price?

Each local Association should fix rates yearly, and every member agree honestly to keep to this (or less if he likes) without chicanery by bonus and increased commissions, on pain of being boycotted by the whole district.

A further step might then be taken in each of the three main products, tea, coffee, and rubber combining, and sending two delegates each to Bangalore, with a Chairman.

But once get the foundations right, and you can have as many affiliations, conferences, free and independent electors (of Eatanswill if you like) delegates and so forth, as you please.

Yours faithfully,

L. NEW COME.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 24th February, 1922.

115s./- per cwt. Market dull.

## THE U. P. A. S. I. MEETING.

The Chronicle this week is practically confined to the report of the U. P. A. S. I. General Committee Meeting which was held at Coimbatore on 22nd February. It was a most important meeting, and lasted well into the second day. For this reason, and owing to lengthy discussions which took place on some of the subjects, it has been found impossible to issue a *verbatim* report, but the proceedings are nevertheless as interesting to the reader as they are important. It will be noticed that there will be another meeting of the Committee on 30th March next at Coimbatore.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 7 OF 1922. (12TH—26TH FEBRUARY)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, returned to head-quarters on the morning of 26th from Pusa, where he attended the Meeting of the Board of Agriculture for India.

While at Pusa, Mr. Anstead took the opportunity of discussing planting crop diseases and spraying methods with the Imperial Officers concerned, and also had an interesting interview with Mr. Carpenter, the Scientific Officer of the Indian Tea Association, on problems connected with Mosquito Blight, and Tea Manuring, etc.

## 2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS (5TH—18TH FEBRUARY)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, dry hot weather conditions prevailed until 14th, when there was a drizzle of rain amounting to 4 cents followed by mist. Pruning of the Station has been begun, and is completed over some four acres. Plot 3 has been collar pruned according to programme. Green dressing seeds are being collected.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, dry weather conditions prevailed throughout the fortnight, 508 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 5.79 acres the first week, and 755 lbs. from 8.72<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acres the second week. The tea is feeling the effect of the drought. Terracing of the drains has been continued.

At the *Rubber Experiment Stations*, little work is in progress, as the trees are wintering. At Mooply, some of the trees have begun to flower. Lime has been applied at this Station to one plot which is under experiment for Brown Bast. The opportunity of the slack season has been taken to allow the respective Farm Managers to go on short leave.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*



## MINUTES OF THE U. P. A. S. I.

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA, HELD  
AT THE COIMBATORE CLUB, ON WEDNESDAY THE  
22ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1922.

## PRESENT.

Mr. H. L. Pinches	...	Chairman.
Mr. J. A. Richardson, M. L. C.	...	Planting Member.
Mr. J. Hatton Robinson	}	Members, Executive Committee.
Mr. A. C. Morrell		
Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D.S.O.		
Mr. H. Waddington	...	Secretary.
Major C. H. Brock	...	Assistant Secretary.

and the following Associations :—

Represented by :—

Anamallais	...	Messrs. J. Hatton Robinson and E. W. Simcock.
Bababudin	...	(not represented.)
Central Travancore	...	Mr. E. C. Sylvester.
Coorg	...	Mr. F. Macrae.
Kanan Devan	...	Messrs. A. Yates and J. H. B. Wallace.
Mundakayam	...	Mr. F. G. Millar.
Nilgiris	...	Messrs. A. S. Dandison and F. H. Farmer.
Nilgiri-Wynaad	...	Messrs. J. Aird and R. Fowke.
Shevaroy	...	Mr. H. S. Dickins.
North Mysore	...	Mr. C. H. Godfrey.
South Mysore	...	Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D.S.O.
South Travancore	...	(not represented.)
West Coast	...	Mr. A. C. Morrell.
Wynaad	...	Mr. B. M. Behr.

Read Notice calling the Meeting.

Proceedings of the last Meeting.

The Chairman.—The proceedings of the last meeting, held on 28th November have been published in the "Planters' Chronicle." Have I your permission to take them as read?

Mr. Millar.—I have been requested, on behalf of the Mundakayam Planters' Association, to protest against the letter which the Assistant Secretary was instructed to send to Government proposing that the Rubber Mycologist be posted as General Mycologist.

Chairman.—The resolution was passed at the last meeting, and at the time your delegate did not object to it. It is now too late. Besides the business before the meeting now is to confirm the correctness or otherwise of the proceedings of the meeting as recorded.

The Proceedings were passed.

## INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.

The Secretary said that the Rules passed at the last meeting had not yet been submitted to District Associations for acceptance, as one still remained to be framed. With reference to the Rule that was passed regarding Maistries who were subsequently found to be working as coolies, he pointed out that the wording adopted would put the Labour Department Officers in an illegal position, as they had no right to 'Take over' any cooly from one employer and hand him to another. As this could not be done the Rule would become a dead letter, and where the words 'proper employer' were used it was ambiguous, as both parties were proper employers. He would ask the meeting to consider the following amendment to the rule that had been passed :—

" In the event of a Maistry being proved to be working as a cooly on an Estate other than that from which he has obtained an advance for the supply of labour, the Estate on which such Maistry is working shall cease to employ him. And the Estate from which he received the advance shall not be liable for any debt contracted on or in connection with the Estate where he was found working as a cooly."

Mr. Behr said that at the last meeting both he and Mr Nicolls had protested that the rule as proposed was illegal, and he considered that this amendment would upset the planter's contract with any maistry whose coolies he would have to cease to employ.

The Secretary agreed that this was true, but that rules were necessary to help planters out of difficulties where the law does not operate. All these rules have to be agreed to by the individual District Associations before they can become effective.

The Chairman pointed out that all that had to be done at the moment was to decide if District Associations are to be asked to accept these rules. Some districts he knew wished for them, others possibly did not.

The proposed amendment was again read and put to the meeting from the Chair, and carried *nem. con.*

The Secretary explained that at the last meeting the Executive were instructed to frame a rule to cover defaulters from Native States to British India, and *vice versa*, in all cases where it was not possible to serve warrants by law. The Executive Committee had framed the following draft :—

" If in the case of any workman, labour supplier, maistry, Kanghany or writer, it was proved that, while under advance to an employer in an Indian State, he is working on an Estate in British India, or *vice versa*, and that service of warrants is not permissible by law, the estate on which the defaulter is found shall cease to employ him unless the debt due is taken over or paid off."

Mr. Fowke said that surely the maistry had a claim against the cooly which he may have been ordered, under this Rule, to cease to employ, and, if this was so, he was compelled to break his contract with the maistry by ceasing to employ the maistry's cooly.

The Chairman said that he would be liable to the maistry as far as that man is concerned.



Mr. Macrae said that he thought that non-members of the Association would score off members to a considerable extent in such cases.

Mr. Fowke asked who is to be the judge in such cases—Labour Superintendents?

The Secretary protested against such a suggestion, and pointed out that under the Rules it was the Executive Committee who were the judges.

The Chairman pointed out to the Meeting that the Executive Committee had been requested to draft the Rule, and that they had done so, and asked if any one could suggest any better Rule than the one that had been drafted.

Colonel Crawford pointed out that these Rules cannot possibly have any horror to planters who play straight. In Mysore they suffered very much indeed by planters in British India arresting their coolies in Mysore, whereas it was impossible for them to arrest their defaulters in British India. All Mysore suffered in this respect very greatly, and they demanded that either this unfair treatment should be stopped, or that they should be given reciprocity.

The proposed Rule was put to the Meeting from the Chair, and carried.

Mr. Aird again pointed out that all they required was to protect themselves from any possibility of being liable to their maistries for such defaulters.

The Chairman pointed out that it was quite a simple matter for them to protect themselves against loss in such cases by providing for it by means of an alteration or addition in the wording of their labour contracts, which would obviate any danger of liability of the planter to the maistry.

The Secretary informed the Meeting that the Billigirirangan Planters' Committee had asked for their district to be defined as a planting area.

The area suggested by them included villages which had supplied labour to other districts in large numbers for many years, and he would therefore suggest the following boundaries, which included the Billigirirangan Hills proper:—

“The Billigirirangan Hills, west of the road connecting Hasanur-Bailur-Lokkanahalli to the junction of the road from Kollegal to Hanur from that point east of a line connecting it with Arepalaiyam and on to Yeragamballi-Atakalpur and the road from there to Hasanur.”

The Chairman proposed that this suggestion be submitted to the South Mysore Planters' Association for their opinion, and this proposal was carried.

The Secretary read a letter from the Nilgiri Planters' Association protesting that the Nilgiri Hills had been omitted from the list of Planting Areas, and requesting the U. P. A. S. I. to re-consider the matter.

The Chairman pointed out that, at the last meeting some districts stated that they drew labour from the Nilgiris, and had done so for many

years, and that the Nilgiri delegate then present had not pressed for the inclusion of the Nilgiris in the Planting Areas under the rule then framed.

Mr. Dandison said that at the Annual Meeting the following resolution had been passed :—" That, in view of the persistent recruiting by a neighbouring planting district of labour from the Shevaroy's, a bye-law be embodied in the existing Inter-District Labour Rules preventing such recruiting by districts affiliated to the U. P. A. S. I., or any member or his appointed agent, in this or other planting districts. That the framing of this rule be entrusted to the Executive Committee, and referred back to District Associations."

He then read extracts from the proceedings of the last meeting of the General Meeting showing that the proposal to include the Nilgiris in the list of Planting Areas had been dropped at the request of one member present, and he considered that this had stultified the resolution passed at the Annual Meeting. His Association considered it very unfair, while some districts, such as the Shevaroy's, were protected from outsiders recruiting in them, that the Nilgiris had been left without any protection whatever. If they could not obtain this protection, the Shevaroy's ought not to have any. What they demanded was that they should have equality and the same protection as other districts, otherwise they advocated 'free trade' for recruiting labour in all districts. As it was, the Shevaroy's and other districts, had been protected by clearly defined boundaries within which other members were not allowed to recruit, whereas anyone was allowed to recruit in the Nilgiris.

Mr. Dickins complained that his Association had not been given the boundaries that they first asked for, and begged to take exception to Mr. Dandison's remarks as regards his district.

Mr. Dandison explained that he was in no way complaining of the extent of the Shevaroy Planting Area, but that the Nilgiris had been allowed no Planting Area at all. He asked the Chairman for permission to move the following resolution : -

" That the Nilgiri District be included in the List of Planting Areas "

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Dickins.

Mr. Behr said that his Association objected to the inclusion of the Nilgiris in the Planting Areas, as Estates in the Wynaad had employed Badaga coolies for many years, and that they were not prepared to give up their old connections.

Col. Crawford said that he understood that the rules were framed mainly to protect estates from losing coolies who live in villages next door to them.

Mr. Simcock said that the Anamallais particularly wanted to retain their existing connections of Badaga labour, which they had for years.

Mr. Dandison explained that he felt pretty certain that old connections would not be stopped, although he could not commit his Association so far as to guarantee this. What he complained of was new recruiting going on in the District, and, recently, circulars had been found in local bazaars being handed round to their own Tamil estate labour advertising work on an Estate in another district.



Mr. Robinson pointed out that, if any Estate goes in for advertising and distributes a large number of leaflets, the Estate that issues them cannot possibly guarantee that they will not find their way to any particular spot, and that it was most probable that the Manager of the Estate, who issued the leaflet, did not know that any of them had filtered through to the Nilgiris.

The Secretary enquired whether the Meeting would accept the Rule subject to Planters being permitted to retain their old existing connections.

Mr. Robinson said that only a few Badagas were employed on the Anamallais for short periods mostly for pruning coffee, etc., and that, if the Anamallais are allowed to retain old coolies, they would be able to accept the Rule.

Mr. Dandison said that he would ask his Association to allow old connections to be retained.

Mr. Behr enquired as to what degree of responsibility they would be held to if their maistries go and recruit in a planting area without their knowledge.

The Chairman replied that no one could be held responsible if it were proved that such recruiting had been carried on without the knowledge of the Manager of the Estate.

The resolution was then put to the Meeting and carried.

The following resolution was put from the Chair and carried :—

“ That the definition of the Nilgiri Planting District be the “ Nilgiri District.”

### COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Secretary said that, with reference to the proposal brought up at the last Meeting, the following Associations had expressed a wish that their members' subscriptions be collected through the U. P. A. S. I. Office :— Bababudin, Nilgiris, Nilgiri-Wynaad, South Mysore, and North Mysore.

The other Associations preferred to continue to collect subscriptions as at present. It was expected that the “ All-in ” cost to the Districts would be Rs. 3 per mensem for every ten members on the Roll of their Associations.

The delegates of the above mentioned Associations, with the exception of Bababudins who were not represented, re-affirmed their desire for their members' subscriptions be collected direct from the Office of the U. P. A. S. I.

The Meeting instructed the Secretary to take steps to carry out this work on behalf of these five Associations, as from the beginning of the next financial year.

### BUDGET.

The Secretary placed the copies of the Budget on the table, which had previously been printed and circulated to all members.

The Chairman proposed that the subscriptions temporarily suspended from Rubber, budgetted for at Rs. 6,732, should be deleted from the

Budget, as he hoped that these abandoned areas would be taken up again in the course of the next year or so, and that, therefore, these subscriptions might be realised before long. He also suggested reducing the Budget estimated for Printing and Stationery by Rs. 500. With these alterations made in it, the Budget would balance without deficit. He thought it was a great mistake to consider that the present temporarily abandoned areas would not be soon in a position to pay their subscriptions again.

Col. Crawford supported the suggestion as, provided the subscriptions are paid, the Income of the Association would cover its Expenditure. The Executive Committee had already done all they could to economise and reduce expenditure in every direction without running the risk of wrecking the work of the Association, and they could propose nothing further.

Mr. Millar said that the Mundakayam Planters' Association had instructed him to read to the Meeting the letter signed by Mr. J. R. Vincent and Mr. J. J. Murphy, which appeared in the Correspondence columns of the "Planters' Chronicle" a little over a week ago. With the permission of the Chairman he read the letter. He added that the letter had also been signed by all the chief members of the Mundakayam Planters' Association, and that he himself had some share in the writing of it. That letter put his case so fully that he had nothing particular to add. He considered it was up to the Meeting to cut down this heavy expenditure, and he felt sure that they would be able to do it if they conscientiously put their shoulders to the wheel.

The Chairman replied:—

"I should like to make a few comments on the letter we have just heard read out by the Mundakayam representative before we discuss it further. The old Labour Department with Mr. Martin as Director was closed down at the end of season 1918—1919. Up till then the Labour Department Office was quite separate from U. P. A. S. I. Secretary's Office. From the beginning of season 1919—1920, the re-organisation scheme came into force, and the U. P. A. S. I. Office and the old Labour Department Office were combined under one roof, the present Secretary and Assistant Secretary between them doing the duties of Secretary to the Association and Director of the Labour Department.

Now, gentlemen, under these circumstances is it not—to say the very least of it—entirely misleading to ignore the expenditure on the old Labour Department's Office, as Messrs. Vincent and Murphy have done, when comparing the expenditure on the Head Office now with that prior to the amalgamation.

In season 1918—19, the expenditure in Mr. Norton's Office for 9 months was, as the writers of the letter stated, Rs. 16,468, but the expenditure for the same 9 months in the Director of Labour's Office, which they are careful not to mention, was Rs. 28,139, so that the expenditure on the Labour and U. P. A. S. I. Offices combined was Rs. 44,607 for 9 months. At this rate, the expenditure for 12 months would have been Rs. 59,476 with 100,000 acres in the Labour Department. Our Budget for the coming season allows for an expenditure of Rs. 42,000 on the combined office of the U. P. A. S. I. and Labour Department, or Rs. 17,000 less, although the acreage served by the Labour Department has increased to 180,000 acres, and our Secretary is a full time man instead of a part time one as in 1918-19. In this respect I would refer you to Mr. Nicolls' reply to Messrs. Vincent



and Murphy's letter. Mr. Nicolls is in a better position than any one else to appreciate the increase in efficiency brought about by this, as he was Chairman of the Association under both the old and the new conditions.

I have often heard it said that there are three kinds of lies, *i. e.*, lies, damned lies and statistics, but I have never had the truth underlying this statement brought home to me so forcibly as I did when I read and sat down to analyse the figures compiled by the writers of the letter.

Finally, I would point out that, if there was extravagant and wasteful expenditure at the Head Office of the U. P. A. S. I., as Messrs. Vincent and Murphy state, there is not the slightest doubt that the Labour Commission, whose Report has just been placed in your hands, would have referred to it."

Mr. Richardson said that he would like to point out a few other items which had necessitated an increase of expenditure. During the year, both Mr. Waddington and Mr. Kent had been on leave, leave which they had to have on account of the long period they had been working. Rents of houses had gone up all over the world, and it was absurd to think that there should be no increase under this heading, and the Labour Department Staff had to receive "Rent free" Bungalows in the same way as every Estate Manager and Assistants. Naturally travelling expenses had also increased, owing to the increased cost of everything necessary for travelling either by rail or road. There is the evidence of the Labour Commission in their Report pointing out that not only had the Labour Department not been extravagantly conducted, but their profound assurance that the present funds were totally inadequate for efficient administration. All these points had been disregarded by the writers of that letter. Another point was that he did not think it at all right that the U. P. A. S. I. expenditure should be compared with the expenditure of the Associations in Malaya or Ceylon. He could not say much about Malaya, but he knew from personal experience a good deal about Ceylon. It was impossible to make any comparison between Ceylon and South India. In Ceylon, the distance between District Associations and their Head Office were negligible, but the distances in Southern India necessitated extra expenditure. Even the correspondence in South India, owing to the great distances and consequent delays in getting replies, involved expense, and lastly, the very great increase in the volume of work of the Association meant that it was impossible for the Chairman to do as much as used to be the case, and the whole of this extra work was thrown on to the Secretary and his Staff.

The Secretary laid on the table copies of the full details of the Labour Department Budget.

Mr. Dandison said that his Association had instructed him to ask if it were not possible to make a 10% reduction all round on the expenses of the Labour Department.

The Secretary pointed out that last year not only had one Division been closed down entirely, but a drastic cut of Rs. 3,000 was made from the expenditure of each of the remaining Labour Divisions. This was only effected by reducing the number of Agencies, and the Department was now suffering from the effect of the heavy reductions made last year.

Mr. Fowke said that he was instructed by the Nilgiri-Wynaad P. A. to enquire if it were not possible to carry on the work of the Head Office with

a far cheaper Assistant Secretary than the one at present employed. They considered that a young and cheap Assistant, though not so efficient in the work, would suffice.

The Chairman pointed out that, with the recommendations of the Labour Commission before them, they had to consider the prospects of separating the Labour Department from the U. P. A. S. I., in which case a Junior Assistant would be of no use at all. He was of the opinion that the U. P. A. S. I. Head Office was not over-staffed, and, in reality, the Staff was vastly cheaper and smaller than it was at the time when the Labour Department and the U. P. A. S. I. Office were run as separate concerns before the last re-organization. He further pointed out that the apparent large increase between the Budget under discussion and the Budget for the current year was due to the fact that, during the period of Mr. Waddington's leave at home in the current year, his salary had not been debited to the current expenditure as, up to 1920, a Furlough Reserve Fund had been accumulating, and it was from that fund that Mr. Waddington's pay, while he was at Home, was drawn.

This accounted for practically the whole difference between the Budget which was before them, and the expenditure for the current year.

Mr. Simcock asked the Meeting if they did not think that they were rather doing the "ostrich stunt." It seemed to him that, whether Rubber would eventually pay their subscriptions or not, there was bound to be a deficit at the present time, as he was convinced that Rubber could not possibly pay. Should they not view the matter in this light and make provision for the very worst that might happen, otherwise how were they going to meet the deficit when they were eventually faced with it,

The Chairman said that he did not consider that there was any reason for them to be unduly pessimistic.

The Secretary said:—"With reference to Mr. Fowke's remarks, it was the idea under the reorganisation scheme of 1918 that the Head Office of the Labour Department as then existing should be done away with, and that each circle or recruiting centre be made self contained and fully responsible for all the work done within its area and rendering its accounts direct to the U. P. A. S. I.

Since that reorganisation was decided on, I think it is sometimes forgotten the difficulties we met with. Mr. Clementson left, I forget why, and had to be replaced; Mr. Walters fell sick, and had to be replaced. Mr. Bartells, who succeeded fell ill, went Home and died. Mr. Prince also died and the many changes, consequent, made it impossible to carry out the idea of each circle being practically independent of the Head Office, which was obliged to help men new to the work.

In view of the future we engaged two young men from Home to learn the work, we replaced the men who had died, and the closing of the Chingleput Agency enabled us to carry on without obtaining a new man when Mr. Tailyour left.

It was decided that it was absolutely necessary for the Head Office to have further help, and that Major Brock was the man we wanted. We had to wait a long time for him to join up.



I returned from England thinking that, at last, we had got the staff into working order, and that we could start straight away to really work the business well, but found that Mr. Vincent has been given leave, and the Superintendent of the biggest Division will be absent before the men training are really competent to take his place—and there is a very decided feeling that the Head Office should be broken up and part, any way, transferred to Madras.

I have very decided views that, for best results, myself and Major Brock should remain in one Office to mutually assist in whatever work happens at the time to be dealt with.

In the coming year I shall not have the staff I expected and which is necessary. I cannot manage without an able Assistant Secretary, with him I can just manage to carry on, but not as satisfactorily as I had hoped in respect to the Labour Department which now, undoubtedly, requires a great deal more of my attention and time. It has been clearly proved from past years' experience that the idea of the scheme of 1918, which I have explained, does not work.

Mr. Millar asked permission to move the following resolution :—

“That the 1922—23 Budget be referred back to the Executive Committee for reconsideration.”

Mr. Aird seconded the resolution, which was then put to the Meeting, and lost.

The Chairman then put the Budget, as amended on the lines of his original remarks to the Meeting, and it was passed.

#### REPORT OF THE LABOUR COMMISSION.

The Report of the Labour Commission, signed by Messrs. J. S. Nicolls, Edward Lord, and William A. Lee, dated Coimbatore, 13th February, 1922, was read to the Meeting by the Secretary.

The Chairman said that before discussing the Report, he would ask the Meeting to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Nicolls, Lord and Lee for the able way in which they had completed the task entrusted to them. They had willingly given up over two months of their time to this work, and he was sure that the Meeting would agree that they had produced an exceedingly valuable and interesting Report.

Col. Crawford, in support of the Chairman's proposal said that, from his own knowledge the Members of the Commission had put in really hard and conscientious work, for which he was particularly grateful.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

The Meeting adjourned at 12 25 p. m. for lunch.

The Committee re-assembled at 1-50 p. m., the same Members being present.

The Chairman said that they would now discuss the Report itself.

The Secretary said that he thought he should say a word on behalf of the Mysore Division, the organization of which had been criticised by the Commission. The Superintendent of that Division had been continually hampered in his work by repeated changes of Bungalows for his office and residence. In fact, during his term of office he had had no less than five changes, and it was impossible to expect that any office organization or filing system could possibly be satisfactory, as the Superintendent had never had an opportunity to get really settled down, and unfortunately this state of affairs was present even now, as the accommodation that he had was purely temporary.

The Chairman said that sufficient copies of the Report had been printed to circulate to all planters, and this would be done. In the meantime, the Meeting could not adopt the Report, but he invited opinions regarding it.

Mr. Fowke asked if the Executive Committee in the Budget had taken into consideration the sharing of the service of the Indian Office staff, etc., pointed out on page 5 of the Commission's Report, and also the fact that the Superintendent of the Coimbatore Division devoted part of his time to U. P. A. S. I. work.

The Secretary said that the work done by the Superintendent for the U. P. A. S. I., apart from the Labour Department, was the *Planters' Chronicle* work, which had been allotted to him by the Executive Committee a couple of years ago. He did not understand exactly what the Labour Commission meant as to the Indian Office staff, except that, for the reasons of economy, the Labour Department and U. P. A. S. I. Office, shared one Despatching clerk and one Accountant.

Mr. Fowke said that in the detailed estimates laid on the table it appeared to him that the amount budgetted for the Coimbatore Division was very high indeed compared with the amount allotted to the Head Office and in comparison with most of the other Labour Divisions. He asked if the U. P. A. S. I. were paying their fair share towards the clerks which it shared with the Coimbatore Division.

The Secretary replied that the U. P. A. S. I. did pay their fair share.

Mr. Robinson asked the Chairman if they might take the various points of the re-organization scheme suggested by the Commission, one by one, for discussion. He thought that this procedure might serve a more useful purpose than a desultory discussion.

The Chairman agreed and proceeded to take each point separately. As regards the Commission's suggestion for re-organization he said that the first point to decide was whether they should have separate the Departments, that is, the Labour Department and the Rubber Mycologist, and if so, whether these Departments were to be subsidised by the U. P. A. S. I.

Mr. Sylvester agreed with the Commission, that the Departments should be separate as he was of the opinion that, if Planters were allowed to join the Departments or not, as they pleased, it would attract more support to the U. P. A. S. I. as a whole. He was also in favour of the proposal for subsidising the Departments.



Mr. Behr asked if non-subscribers of the Labour Department would get any benefit at all from it. He thought that his Association would consider the subscriptions allotted for the subsidies far too high for merely some protection by the registration of their maistries.

Mr. Dandison thought his Association would take the same views.

Mr. Aird thought that his Association would be prepared to adopt the principle suggested, but he considered the subsidy for the Labour Department was far too high.

Mr. Millar expressed the same views on behalf of Mundakayam.

The Secretary enquired if the general opinion was that the subsidy of the Labour Department should vary as to the different products. It was clear that the Commission undoubtedly thought so, as the acreage subscriptions which they propose were based on these lines.

The Chairman said that he thought so too, and was in entire agreement with the Commission's Report.

Mr. Behr asked if there was any other benefit that non-subscribers would obtain for subsidies apart from the registration of their maistries.

The Chairman pointed out that there was an all round benefit, and asked the Assistant Secretary to explain to the Meeting more fully what he understood the Commission meant by the moral and indirect influence on labour as a whole.

The Assistant Secretary said that, in speaking to the members of the Labour Commission, they laid stress on what they termed the *political* advantage to all planters of the work of the Labour Department. One of the great aims of the Labour Department was to endeavour to prevent labour from defaulting by moral persuasion, and the more work the Labour Department did in seeing that labour, as a whole, carried out their agreements was of a benefit to all plantation labour, whether belonging to subscribing estates or not. But, perhaps the greatest value would be from the advertising, which the Commission so strongly urge, an energetic advertising campaign in all villages from which labour is drawn, pointing out that there was no necessity whatever for coolies to leave India in order to obtain agricultural employment, was bound to assist every non-subscriber just as much as any subscriber, and it was for this policy of general work the subsidy was proposed, as apart from work done by the Labour Department for its individual subscribers.

Mr. Aird put forward the suggestion that, in order to subsidise and cover the conditions mentioned by the Assistant Secretary, possibly a low flat rate all round for all products might be more equitable.

Mr. Morrell said that this would not meet with the ideas of his Association, if it meant that the subsidy rate for rubber had to be increased. If, however, an all round flat rate of 4 annas would be sufficient for the subsidy, they would have no objection at all, as they were prepared to admit the benefits of the political policy, but Rubber was not prepared to pay more than 4 annas per acre for that.

The Chairman did not think it would be possible to give sufficient subsidy at a lower rate than 6 annas, even in the case of Rubber.

Mr. Behr said he had given his views, and, in explanation, he knew one big Tea concern who would not join in under the proposed re-organization unless the subsidy rate for Tea was lowered to a considerable extent.

Mr. Sylvester pointed out that the Labour Commission, after considering every possibility, had come to the conclusion that a certain definite amount of money was necessary in order to obtain efficiency, so why attempt to cut it down and destroy the efficiency which was their chief aim.

Mr. Morrell suggested the subsidy should be considerably lower, and the Cess of subscribers increased sufficiently so as to arrive at the same total of income.

The Chairman pointed out that the question for them to decide was, is the subsidy for indirect influence on labour too much, and he wanted the sense of the Meeting on this point.

A show of hands upon this point proved that the opinion of the Meeting was divided.

On the Chairman asking the opinion of the Meeting as to whether there should be a flat rate for all products, the majority of the members voting were not in favour of any flat rate.

The Chairman then read the Commission's proposal regarding the Rubber Mycologist Department, and asked if the principle of the proposals were accepted, and the Meeting unanimously accepted them.

The Chairman then read items 1 to 5 on page 7 of the Report, and asked the Meeting if they would support these recommendations.

Mr. Sylvester pointed out that they had already agreed to the principle of the subsidies, and therefore they were in agreement with these five paragraphs, and the same was applicable to paragraphs 6 and 7.

The Chairman then took paragraph 8 and pointed out that this contained a new principle, or at least a new recommendation which they had not yet discussed.

Mr. Sylvester remarked that the multiplication of Committees would, in his opinion, make the organization too unwieldy.

Mr. Richardson said in his opinion one member each for Tea, Rubber and Coffee would be sufficient to control the Labour Department, and they already had such representation on the Executive Committee.

The Chairman pointed out that on the Executive Committee, there might be one or more members who did not subscribe to the Departments which had to be controlled, and if the control was to be invested in the Executive Committee, the only alternative would be to rule out non-members of the Departments from being eligible for election to the Executive Committee.



Mr. Morrell remarked that if the Labour Department was separated from the U. P. A. S. I. and had its own Advisory Committee, he hoped that it would not become the same kind of secret concern as was the case with the old Labour Department.

The Chairman then asked the Meeting for its opinion regarding para 8, and a show of hands proved that the opinion of the Meeting was divided.

Mr. Morrell:--I am of the opinion that the Departments should be under the control of the Executive Committee only.

The Chairman said the next point for discussing, was the paragraph with reference to the location of offices. There were two points on which he wished to obtain the views of the Meeting namely, did they consider that the Director of the Labour Department's work should be entirely separated from the Secretarial work of the U. P. A. S. I., also, if that is done, whether the Director of the Labour Department should be directly under the control of the Executive Committee, or under the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I.

Mr. Aird asked if there were any other reasons, besides the possibility of the Secretary having to take up the work of the Planting Member, for transferring the Head Office of the U. P. A. S. I. to Madras.

The Chairman explained that there were other reasons, but not weighty ones. If they could possibly find a planter to carry on the work of Planting Member it was his opinion that the Head Office of the U. P. A. S. I. had better remain at Coimbatore as now.

Mr. Macrae asked if it would not be possible to get a man in Madras belonging to some firm interested in planting to take on the work of Planting Member for the Association.

The Chairman replied that he agreed with the Report of the Commission, that they should only resort to that measure failing everything else.

Mr. Aird asked if it would not simplify matters if the Association were to agree to pay whoever might represent them as Planting Member something to cover the expenses and loss of time involved.

The Chairman replied that he certainly thought they should pay their representative something so that he should not be out of pocket, and he thought that the Association would be able to afford it.

In this connection, on the point being put to the Meeting it was the opinion that, if a Planter was appointed Planting Member, the U. P. A. S. I. Office should remain at Coimbatore.

The Secretary asked if the Meeting would go through that portion of the Report of the Labour Commission under the heading of complaints and suggestions, with a view to ascertaining which of the suggestions put forward by the Commission could be adopted without delay.

Before starting on this, the Chairman put his proposal to the Meeting namely, did they consider that the Director of the Labour Department's

work should be carried on separate from the Secretarial work of the U. P. A. S. I., and a show of hands showed that the Meeting were in favour of this suggestion, and then proceeded to discuss under whose control the Director should be.

Mr. Behr said his Association considered that the Director of the Labour Department was the more important post, and should be a better paid man than the Secretary, and in this case he naturally would have to be directly responsible to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Macrae remarked if the Director was directly under the control of Executive Committee, he must necessarily be under the Secretary as well.

Mr. Simcock thought if the Director worked alone on his own job with labour only, responsible to the Executive Committee direct, he would be more likely to give more attention to, and take more interest in, the Labour Department.

Mr. Morrell pointed out that, if the Director and Secretary had to take up the work of the Planting Member, he would have still less time for the work of the Labour Department than he has had hitherto.

Mr. Richardson said they had already agreed that a Separate Director was advisable, and he considered that, until the question who was to take up the Legislative Council work was settled, it was impossible to come to any further conclusion as to the relative positions of the Secretary and the Director.

Mr. Davidson considered that the Labour Director should be under the Executive Committee only, and not under the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I., otherwise it would mean that a certain amount of the Secretary's time would be taken up on Labour Department work, which was not his particular job, and his Secretarial work might suffer.

On this point being put to the Meeting, it was found that the opinion of the Meeting was divided.

The Chairman then took up the question of Superintendents of the Labour Departments visiting Planting Districts. He considered that Superintendents should not visit Planting Districts except on the special request of a District Association through the Director, but that the Director himself should visit all Planting Districts once a year, if possible.

The Meeting expressed itself in agreement with the Chairman's opinion.

The Meeting then considered the suggestions regarding Reports on conditions in Labour Divisions, and in this connection the Secretary explained that, in former years, Agents used to send in weekly reports, but they were subsequently discontinued as it was not found that they served any useful purpose.

Mr. Robinson said what was required were reports from the Labour Superintendents, themselves, on general conditions, and not the doubtful reports from Agents. He explained that, as things were now, Superintendents would not, or could not, give him information as to which were the most suitable time to recruit, or if at any time anything happens which might make recruiting at that particular moment easier. These reports would tell him something, that they really wished to know. They received all kinds of yarns from their coolies, about the price of grains, etc., in their



villages, and they never knew how much credence to place on such information, whereas the Labour Superintendents would be able to tell them, fairly accurately, what the position of affairs was in the low country, and if they had this information periodically in the "Planters' Chronicle" they would then know how much to believe, and this alone would be of great use to them.

On being put to the Meeting it was agreed that Superintendents should send in the suggested reports to the Head Office for publication in the "Planters' Chronicle" monthly.

The Chairman explained that the addresses of Agents would only be published so as to supply Estates with information as to whom their maistries should go to in order to obtain assistance, and not for the purpose of direct correspondence.

The Meeting was of the opinion that the addresses of all Agents might be published in the *Planters' Chronicle*.

With reference to the Commission's suggestion that the Offices of Agents should be situated in the Main Streets of Towns, the Secretary informed the Meeting that he did not think that the cost to the Association would be more than about Rs. 300 per mensem.

The Meeting agreed to the suggestion of the Commission being carried out when funds permit.

The Chairman then took up the question of direct correspondence with Agents, and pointed out that they had to vote it entirely in the old Labour Department, which used to be run by his Company.

The Secretary pointed out that if instructions were allowed to be sent direct to Agents, it was apt to lead to trouble, and correspondence with a number of different people hurried the Agent to such an extent as to hamper his work. Letters could, of course, be sent to the Agents by the hand of maistries, asking them to help the maistry, and there was no objection in that. But in all cases of correspondence involving enquiry, as all the records were at Head Office and were thus not available to the Agents, it was risky to rely on correspondence direct with them.

On being put to the Meeting it was agreed that no direct correspondence between Estates and Agent should be permitted.

The Chairman then took the question of Class of Agents, and noted that the Commission had not expressed their opinion on this point.

The Secretary said in his experience, he found that the best work, from the Department's point of view, did not necessarily come from the best paid agents. It was a matter of the extent of his charge. He had always found the best results from comparatively small Agents in charge of a small area. However good an Agent might be, if he had too large an area to look after, he could not possibly do his work thoroughly.

Mr. Macrae said his Association thought that the class of man employed was not nearly good enough, and their idea was that a better class of agent, paid at, say Rs. 75 a month, would be a more trustworthy man in every way than a Rs. 25 a month agent.

Mr. Fowke enquired as to how many agencies there were in the Mysore Division.

The Secretary :—" 21 Agencies."

Mr. Fowke enquired if the Agents' travelling allowance was added to the Pay of the Agents in the detailed Labour Department Budget laid on the table.

The Secretary pointed out that the estimate under the heading of " Agencies " included pay, travelling allowance, peons, and all incidentals in connection with that particular Agency.

The Chairman pointed out that the whole of this matter was a question of Funds, and he thought it was no good discussing it, as at present they had not got the Funds, and so he considered that they would have to leave it at that, and the same remark applied to the next three items in the Report, namely, " Expansion in existing recruiting areas," " Sub Agencies " and " Travelling Inspector."

The next subject was that of Labour disputes, and the Secretary pointed out it was not the duty of Labour Superintendents to attend to disputes between subscribers. The Inter-District rules delegated this power to the Executive Committee only, and it was not either his or his Superintendents' place to sit in judgment between planters.

The Chairman asked the Secretary to issue specific instructions to all his Superintendents accordingly. He then took up the question of the Shevaroy District Agency.

Mr. Dickins said that this was an old standing matter brought up in Mr. Hight's original scheme, and he said that his Association would be prepared to pay a part of the expenses towards the same. The chief reason for the Agency was to conduct cases for them in the local courts.

Mr. Fowke :—" We should like one, too, please " (Laughter)

The Chairman replied there were no funds for the purpose, but it might be considered if funds became available under the re-organization scheme of the Labour Commission.

Finally, the Meeting resolved that all the recommendations in the Labour Commission's Report which did not entail additional expenditure should be carried out by the Executive Committee and the Director as far as possible. It was further resolved that copies of the Report be circulated to all District Associations for distribution to their members, and that the proposals contained in it for re-organization would be dealt with at the next Annual Meeting.

#### SOUTH INDIAN PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Assistant Secretary explained to the Meeting the application that had been made by the South Mysore Planters' Association for the relief of the family of the late Mr. J. D. Brewer, and explained the circumstances under which the Executive Committee felt that they could not deal with the case themselves, and hence submitted it to the General Committee for their consideration.

The following resolution was put to the Meeting by the Chairman, and carried by six votes to two :—



"That the Executive Committee be empowered to make a grant in arranging for the care of the children of the late Mr. J. D. Brewer."

Col. Crawford asked all districts to support and give more consideration to the fund in general. They are now trying to help the children of the late Mr. J. D. Brewer. The case had its difficulties, but he was sure that he was voicing the opinion of many, in saying that we all ought to subscribe for such an object as this.

They must uphold the name of planters in this country and not allow their children to wander about, uncared for. He assured the Meeting that every case the Executive Committee had dealt with out of the Benevolent Funds, had been a deserving one, and he sincerely hoped that every planter and every Estate would combine to support the Fund in a far more liberal way than hitherto. (Applause).

Mr. Sylvester stated that, as far as he could remember, about a couple of years ago the South Indian Association in London had stated that they could not see their way to ask the Directors of Companies at Home to give regular donations to the Fund, unless all planters in Southern India joined it.

Col. Crawford added that they wanted every single planter to subscribe to the Fund, not looking on it as an insurance, but as an annual subscription for the good of the whole community.

#### THE PLANTING MEMBER.

Mr. Richardson spoke as follows :—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—It is with the greatest reluctance I feel bound to give up the post of Planting Member, an honour conferred on me which I can never forget, but I feel that, in the interests of the planting community, I cannot give it the time and attention it requires.

It would not be fair on the U. P. A. S. I. to continue the work as conditions have changed very much since I first took up the post of Planting Member.

Previous to the Reforms Scheme coming into force, the Council Meetings took place once a quarter, so one had ample time to study the various questions and suggestions that are coming up for discussion. Under the Reform Scheme, conditions are very much changed, and the work entails a Meeting every month which, including travelling, takes up at least 10 days in the month.

Apart from this, I am quite convinced you must be represented by some one who can give a considerable amount of time to the work which I feel sure no working planter can do.

We must look, therefore, for a man who has leisure at his disposal, and I sincerely hope some one will come forward and help the Industry at this very critical time, as it is quite evident from our Budget that we cannot afford to pay for a full time man, though possibly we might be able to Budget a certain amount towards travelling expenses. What we must all realize is that, with the present political state of the country, we cannot afford to give up the seat, and this should be apparent to all thinking men.

From my experience of the Reformed Councils, I can see quite plainly, that what we want is a man who has sufficient time on his hands to study the business of the Council, apart from actual planting matters, — one who will be prepared to speak, and enter into all debates, and make himself felt in the Council, otherwise I see no hope of getting support on mat-

ters of interest to our Industry. In this, I frankly admit, I have absolutely failed as I have not the time at my disposal to give to the work, and feel that I would not be acting in the interests of the Planting Industry in continuing to hold my appointment, and this to a great extent has guided me in coming to my decision in resigning my seat in the Council.

I thank you again, gentlemen, for the honour you have done me in electing me, on two occasions, as your Planting Member.

Now, gentlemen, with the permission of the Chairman, before severing my connection with the Planting Membership and Executive Committee, I should very much like to make a few general remarks on the present position on the U. P. A. S. I., and the Planting Industry in general.

We have arrived at a very critical stage of our Industry, both commercially and politically, and it is going to take the best brains of the community to see us through, backed up by the dogged determination of the planter for which he has always been admired. I will first deal with the commercial side of the question.

As a Rubber Planter, I am quite aware of the difficulties with which we are faced, and quite realize that it is impossible for many to meet the subscriptions, now claimed from that branch of the Industry. All I would ask is, "Admit the liability and pay what you can now, and we must wait for better times for the balance, and I am sure the Executive Committee will be quite prepared to meet you in the matter." If the U. P. A. S. I. have this assurance I feel sure we can weather the storm.

We have had before us a considered report of the Commission, who have given up valuable time for the benefit of the Industry, and to whom our grateful thanks are due. This Report has pointed out that, in place of a reduction in expenditure, if the work is to be efficiently carried out more money is necessary.

I will now deal with the political side of the question. At no time in the history of India or the Planting Industry was there more need for a strong and combined Association to look after our interests.

As I pointed out in my previous remarks, we must make ourselves felt in the Council and by the Government, if we hope to get any help and consideration in future, and only by combination amongst all branches of our Industry can this be achieved.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I can only say that in our interests every sacrifice must be made to uphold the U. P. A. S. I., and the traditions of the Planting Industry.

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The Chairman asked the Meeting to pass a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Richardson for the whole-hearted and generous way in which he carried out his duties as Planting Member of Council, and said that it was impossible to say how indebted they were to him.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Richardson, in thanking the Meeting for the hearty way in which they had shown their appreciation, said he was very sorry indeed that he had to give up the work. Whoever followed him would find that he had very much to do, far more than he had been able to do himself. He wished to impress on the Meeting again that they must not give up their seat on



the Council. The U. P. A. S. I. was, in the eyes of Government, a strong and united body, and their sole aim must be to still further strengthen their position and become still more united.

The Chairman then asked the Meeting if they could suggest any one to take Mr. Richardson's place.

Col. Crawford suggested Mr. Godfrey.

Mr. Richardson suggested that the Meeting should give Mr. Godfrey more time to think over it. The request had been made to him without warning.

Mr. Godfrey thanked the Meeting for their kind offer and said that he would like to have more time to consider it. (Applause).

The Meeting adjourned for the day at 4 p. m.

## SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY, 1922.

The Committee re-assembled at 10-10 a. m., the same members being present.

### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—GENEVA.

The Secretary referred those present to his report, which had been printed in the "Chronicle" of 7th January, and asked the Meeting to pass a vote of thanks to Mr. Saklatwalla, the Employers' Delegate at the Conference.

At the U. P. A. S. I. at the Bangalore Meeting had agreed to the principle that it was better to have an Employers' Liability Act, defining exactly their responsibility in case of accidents, he would like to take the matter up with the Indian Tea Association as to whether planters could not come to a general agreement among themselves in respect to the recommendations made by the International Labour Conference in regard to agricultural workers.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Saklatwalla for his work as the Employers' Delegate at the Conference, and also to Mr. Waddington for having represented planters, and for his interesting report. Carried with acclamation.

As it appeared that most of the members present had not thoroughly studied the Secretary's Report on the Conference, it was decided to postpone the decision as to further action until a later date.

### LABOUR RATES OF PAY.

Mr. Sylvester said the Central Travancore Planters' Association in January resolved to approach the South Indian Association in London suggesting that the rate of plucking pay be increased to 16½%. Owing to their local conditions they were now of the opinion that it was necessary to raise their rate of plucking by 1 pie per lb. and it was necessary to ask the permission of the Meeting to allow them to do this without giving the six months notice, that was resolved on as necessary at the Annual Meeting last year. He considered that it was an urgent necessity.

The Chairman asked whether it was for the whole district or for any Special Estate.

Mr. Sylvester explained he was asking permission as from the Association as a whole, but it was possible that only the worst situated Estates would take advantage of the permission given.

In this connection the Secretary read a cable which he had received from the South Indian Association in London :—

"Understand Peermade Planters' Association has made proposal to raise plucking rate. Committee have no objection if your Association approves."

The Chairman pointed out under the Rule, six months notice must be given before a rate is raised, and on the expiry of the period of the notice the Association cannot refuse to accept the rise. He feared that if this plucking rate was raised in one District that other districts would be forced up to a similar amount, where it was by no means necessary.

Mr. Fowke enquired if the proposed rise was to be in operation all through the year or only for certain months.

Mr. Sylvester replied on certain estates it was necessary throughout the year.

The Chairman asked what proportion of Estates in the District felt that they were compelled to pay this extra rate.

Mr. Sylvester :—"75% of the district".

Mr. Robinson said that what the Chairman remarked was correct, and if Central Travancore raised this rate it would certainly affect his district, and he considered that a rise in rates in the Anamallais was quite unnecessary.

Mr. Wallace pointed out that he thought conditions in Peermade were so different so those in other districts that the proposed rise in rates was a necessity, and he did not think that it would affect the Kanan Devan District at all.

Mr. Behr asked if the difficulty could not be overcome by making some special concessions instead of raising the rates.

Mr. Sylvester pointed out they were already heavy losers on rice issue. The only other alternative would be to pay a bonus for so many days work. This might be possible.

Mr. Fowke :—"Why not pluck by name?"

Mr. Richardson :—"I am chiefly responsible for this resolution. Owing to restriction of output and other reasons, our yield is now barely 500 lbs. per acre as compared with over 700 lbs. previously. 75% of our Tea is of a poor yielding jat. I know that there are Estates in other Districts where 4 pies per lb. is paid. The proportion of women to men coming to the Estate is steadily decreasing. With reference to Mr. Fowke's suggestion, I do not think it possible for us to go back to plucking by daily name after so many years of contract plucking. I do not suppose that any of our present Assistants are trained to estimating a day's pluck as they never have to do it. Bonuses, I am absolutely against as there is no means of controlling them. I do not wish you to think that I am throwing out a threat, but we shall be compelled to pay this extra rate. There are a number of non-members in the district who are going to pay it, and the moment that they do, we shall be compelled to do the same. All of us agreed that it must be done, because we are still paying the same rates as we did years ago, and that with a decreasing yield, whereas most districts' yields are increasing, and all other rates have gone up. I hope that you will sanction us to pay upto 4 pies per lb. if we find it necessary. Naturally we will keep it down to 3½ pies per lb. if we possibly can. I may add, too, that Peermade is also suffering very severely from Mosquito Blight on many estates upto 25 to 30% of their area."

Mr. Behr remarked that the Peermade average of 500 lbs. per acre was good compared with the average of the Wynad yield.



Mr. Dandison thought if they were able to give this concession to Peer-made they ought to do so.

The Chairman pointed out it could only be done by breaking the Rule that they passed in August last.

Mr. Richardson asked if the rule then made was not merely for, or at least at the request of, the South Indian Association.

The Secretary pointed out that it was a resolution of the U. P. A. S. I. The South Indian Association had said nothing about six months notice in their recommendations.

Mr. Sylvester remarked that up-country in Ceylon, they had an all round rate for plucking upto 4 cents per lb., and the Ceylon Labour Commission freely advertised this in their recruiting campaign.

The Chairman said he gathered that no one else wanted to pay as much.

Mr. Richardson pointed out that there were some Estates who already paid 4 pies per lb.

The Secretary questioned the right of a General Committee Meeting rescinding or suspending a resolution made by a General Meeting, but at the same time it was true that this resolution was re-passed by the General Committee, as an Inter-District Labour Rule.

Mr. Richardson said if three non-members near his Estate put the rate upto 4 pies per lb. he would have to do the same even if it meant breaking the Rule.

Mr. Dandison said what it amounted to was that he was compelled either to break the rule or, if he kept to it, to be penalised because he was a member of the U. P. A. S. I.

Mr. Simcock asked, in that case what is the good of rules.

The Secretary questioned whether the resolution should have been passed as a labour rule. If it was a Labour Rule; up to the present it was of no effect, as District Associations had not yet given their assent to the new labour rules. If, however, it was a resolution of the U. P. A. S. I. passed at the General meeting, they could not rescind it.

The Chairman said as there seemed to have been some uncertainty or irregularity as to the rule having been dealt with by the General Committee, he thought they might, on this occasion, accept two months notice only, and this he understood Mr. Richardson was prepared to agree to.

Mr. Sylvester raised the point that the wording of the Rule prohibited a rise in the pay of coolies, and he submitted that this case was not a case of coolies' pay, but of a contract rate.

The Chairman declined to admit that argument, as plucking pay is given to the individual cooly in the same way as daily pay was.

He then put the following resolution to the Meeting which was proposed by Mr. Sylvester and seconded by Mr. Wallace :—

"Resolved that the Central Travancore Planters' Association be given permission to raise the rates of pay for plucking upto 4 pies per pound after two months notice has been given."

The resolution was carried *nem con.*

The Secretary asked the Chairman if he might read to the Meeting some notes regarding labour. On permission being given, he placed before the Meeting some suggestions for recruiting labour in Southern India on lines similar to that employed by Ceylon in the case of "A" form holders, and in the case of Assam, Sirdhars. He suggested that selected coolies should be returned to their villages to recruit among their own relations, and they should be paid by a capitation grant. On arriving back, coolies so recruited might be added to the Maistries gang. He did not consider that Depots would be necessary. The Labour Department would look after and hunt up the Sirdhar, paying necessary road expenses, etc., and see that the recruits that he brought with him were really agricultural workers and not town loafers. They would also do everything possible by advertisement in selected circles to prepare the ground for expected Sirdhars. He pointed out that the result of recruiting by "A" form holders for Ceylon averaged about 4 to 5 coolies each. On the other hand the Assam Sirdhars average was only about half this.

Mr. Fowke asked if the Labour Department would register all the coolies recruited in this way.

The Secretary :—No. Very few applications for work were received by the Labour Department whereas applications for coolies were so numerous, applicants for work are immediately snapped up.

The Chairman said it would be an excellent system for new areas.

Mr. Richardson said that he agreed with the suggestion generally, but did not like the idea of a capitation grant. Kanganies would soon learn to arrange to split up the grants received from the Estates, with the "A" form holder. In this way he would get money from his coolies, get all his recruiting done by them, and do nothing himself.

Mr. Behr questioned the Secretary's remarks that Depots were not necessary. They had lost labour and chances of getting more labour all through there having been no Depots in Ganjam.

The Secretary agreed that Depots were necessary in a new district, but that he was talking about recruiting in their present old recruiting districts, where Depots were not required. He was not referring to recruiting in new areas at all.

Mr. Fowke pointed out that they had a fair nucleus of Ganjam labour, but suffered from having no Depots through which they could carry out the Sirdhari recruiting which they desired.

Mr. Aird asked the Secretary if it were not possible to institute special enquiries for short-period labour.

The Secretary said they had been trying to get short-period labour for coffee continuously since 1915.



## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Chairman pointed out that under Article XIII (b), a resolution had to be passed by the General Committee in order to authorise the collection on the extra two annas cess for the coming financial year. He pointed out that this two annas cess had been allowed for in the Budget, which had been passed by this meeting, but that a resolution authorising its collection was necessary. He proposed the following resolution :—

“That the General Committee authorise the collection of the extra two annas cess for the financial year 1922-23, in the same way as has been the case during the past two years.”

Mr. Morrell said that he knew the West Coast Planters' Association would object to the extra two anna cess, as they could not possibly afford it. There had been no meeting of his Association on this subject, but he knew for certain that he was expected to oppose the extra two annas cess.

Mr. Millar said that in the same way he had received no specific instructions from his Association, but he knew that they were opposed to it, and he did not see how they could possibly afford to pay it.

Mr. Dandison enquired if this resolution was not passed what would happen to the Budget which they had already passed.

The Chairman replied if the two annas cess is not passed now, it would mean that they had passed the Budget with a very large deficit.

A poll was taken which resulted in 1,169 votes being recorded in favour of the resolution, and 453 votes against it.

As a number of the votes in favour of the resolution did not amount to a three-quarter majority of those present and voting the Chairman declared that the resolution was *not* carried.

The Chairman :—“Gentlemen, this has brought matters to an absolute standstill. The Executive Committee carefully went into every item of the Budget, and they have come to the conclusion that it is impossible to carry on during the coming year on less than what they have budgetted for. All that is left for us to do is to call another Meeting of the General Committee, and if this extra two annas cess is not passed we shall have to notify Government that, among other things, we cannot possibly continue to pay for the Rubber Mycologist, and I personally, will have to resign my post as your Chairman, and I have no doubt that the Executive Committee will feel that they will have to do the same. Some of those members who have voted against the two annas cess now agree that they are prepared to reconsider the matter, and hence I propose to call another Meeting of the General Committee after giving one month's notice.

I wish to point out that, in taking the poll, the full number of votes were allowed to every Association, irrespective of whether their subscriptions had been paid or not, as the Executive Committee did not think it right to exercise the powers conferred on them under Article VII of the Articles of Association without giving notice of their intention to do so, but I am to warn you now that, at the next meeting, the Executive Committee will exercise the powers they have under that section, and will not admit votes on such areas as have not paid their subscriptions at the time of the meeting.

Col. Crawford remarked the paramount point to remember is that any Association, whatever its purpose might be, must spend money now a-days or go to the wall. It is an absolute necessity that we should pay to keep our own interests going, and unless we are all prepared to do this, and stick together we shall fail entirely. Planters now carry great weight as a United Association, but, if dissolution takes place, the community will carry no weight at all, and small individual Associations will receive no

attention to their requirements. It behoves every district and every planter in every district, to make every sacrifice to keep the parent Association going, and this can only be done by spending more money to uphold and increase its efficiency.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting then closed.

(Signed) H. WADDINGTON,

Secretary.

(Signed) H. L. PINCHES,

Chairman.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

### Foxy Coffee.

Dear Sir,—Will the Duputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, or any of your readers kindly give me their ideas as to the cause of "Foxy Coffee"??

1. Is it inherent to certain soils, or certain Estates?
2. Has manuring any effect?

We all know that *over ripe* crop when gathered will give foxiness, but is this the only cause? Of course I am referring to Parchment coffee, and not coffee, dried in the cherry.

Yours faithfully,

IGNORAMUS.

### Coffee Hybrids

Dear Sir,—As one who lives not far from Mr. Jackson's original hybrid clearing, I could give some of the information Mr. Kirwan desires. At three year old (I think) there was a heavy crop on the trees, and both leaf-disease and die back were in evidence. This on beautiful virgin soil some miles from any other coffee. The type is like the ordinary Coorg, but 2 or 3 per cent looked like a "throw back" to the Liberian, coarse heavy leaf, little crop. The growth in that level, was wonderful for its age, but there was no check plot of Coorgs to compare it with. Then, at 2 years old from seed, in moderate level, the plants are stocky and sturdy, varying in height, but few are yet ready to top at 2ft. 6 in. This is not a forcing climate, and clearings as a rule are slow. On the whole, a worthy effort and perhaps one expected a fairy tale with seed at 10 for a penny.

I see our experimental station, in this year of grace, have now invested in one pound of Jackson's and also Kent's. Planters have tried these now for 4 or 5 years with satisfactory results, especially the latter, and the station would be better employed in trying further strains, for instance a cross of Kent's and Margopipe. I have some third generation Margopipe which, contrary to usual experience, promise to be heavy croppers.

Seed not yet for sale. (ad.)

Yours faithfully,

L. N.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 3rd March, 1922.

126s. per cwt. Market steady.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### The Golf Tournament.

The Inter-District Sports Committee have had some difficulty in coming to a decision in this matter. Golf courses are not as common as Tennis Courts, and those that do exist are unknown to the Committee. There is also the point that Golf courses differ very much, whereas Tennis Courts are less variable. It seems that the best means would be for each district entering the tournament to send their two best men. They may discover these by tournaments on their own courses, or nearby links, or may choose by simple selection. That part of the tournament would not concern the committee. At Bangalore in Planters' week there would be a competition against bogey, the two selected men from each district playing 18 holes. The scores against bogey of each team to be averaged thus, if

one man of the team was 2 up on bogey and the other 2 down on bogey, that team's score would be "all square," or one member being 3 down on bogey and the other member of the team 1 up on bogey, that team's score would be 2 down on bogey. In the event of 2 or more teams tying they could play it off. This suggestion is being circulated to all Associations. The entrance fee for each *player*, this year, to be Rs. 10, and small trophies will be given to the winners. The question of a permanent golf trophy, such as we now have for Tennis, could be decided by a Committee of golfers at Bangalore in August, when we have seen whether the above idea is a success. Presuming always, of course, that the U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting will be held at Bangalore this year in August as usual.

### The Tennis Tournament.

Entries have so far been received from the same ten teams which took part last year, *viz*:—Anamalais, High Range, Mundakayam, Nilgiris, Nilgiri-Wynaad, Peermade, Shevaroy's, the U. P. A. S. I., West Coast and Wynaad. Entries close on 13th March, and the result of the draw will be published in the *Planters' Chronicle* of 18th March.

### Tea in New Zealand.

We have received a request from a retired Government Official who has started business in Wellington, N. Z., and who wishes to be put in touch with growers this side. Will anyone interested kindly address the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I.?

### Mr. J. A. Gwynne.

The popular "Jimmy" Gwynne has left by the "Oxfordshire" for England. In the meanwhile Mr. Behr is acting Honorary Secretary of the Wynaad Planters' Association, though we see by the Minutes in this issue that Mr. B. D. Darkin has been elected to replace Mr. Gwynne. His many friends will wish the latter a happy time in the old country, and a speedy return to the Wynaad.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 8 OF 1922. (26TH FEBRUARY—4TH MARCH.)

*Colletotrichum coffeanum*.—This fungus which attacks Coffee is usually associated with Leaf diseases on the leaves, where it forms round spots which are brown in the middle. It also attacks the berries, on which it forms a depression checking the growth of the berry on one side. At this point, a black or brown stain is found on the bean after pulping, and such beans have to be picked out, and are unmarketable except as triage. In a third form, the fungus attacks the branches causing a die back. This phase of the disease was dealt with in an article in the *Chronicle*, Volume XVI, page 508. In that article, I said that I had been unable to find the leaf spot due to the fungus. On a recent visit to an estate, I found the coffee leaves in large numbers covered with a circular brown spot, and on the occasion of my recent visit to Pusa I compared specimens of these leaves with the type specimens there, and identified the fungus. We now know this fungus in all its forms in South India, attacking leaves, stems and fruit. The attack is worse in some years than others, and it appears to depend upon climatic conditions and other factors which are unfavourable to the Coffee. This being so, good cultural methods will, probably, do much to keep it in check.



In this connection, I may say that the Manager of the estate mentioned above, told me that where the coffee had been dug during the monsoon, the disease was worst, and where lime had been applied in November, there was little or none of it. Spraying with Bordeaux Mixture can also be recommended as a preventative where this is possible.

2. NETHERLAND EAST INDIES.—Lecturing on "Trade with the Netherlands East Indies" at the Royal Society of Arts, Sir Walter Beaupre Townley said that various sorts of coffee had been experimented with until experience had proved the Robusta imported from Africa to be the best suited to climatic and other conditions, so that it was now rapidly superseding all other varieties. The production of coffee amounted to 807,290 piculs (48,841 tons) in 1920, and it was estimated that the 1921 crop would total 985,118 piculs (59,599 tons.)

The cultivation of Rubber in the Netherland East Indies is of comparatively recent date, but none of the other cultivated products can show such rapid progress. The plantings consist chiefly of Hevea, which was introduced into Java from the Amazon region in 1876. There are now some 800,000 acres under cultivation on roughly 680 estates, of which some 400 are in Java, and the remainder in the outlying possessions.

There are about 220,000 acres under Tea on some 300 estates, of which all but about 30 are in Java, but the cultivation of the plant is being rapidly developed in other islands, and more especially in Sumatra, where it appears to prosper well.

### 3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS, (19th -25th February).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, hot weather conditions prevailed, and the soil has become hard and dry. Seven acres of the Station were pruned during the week, and some of the bad shade have been removed in Plots 3 and 4. In the Hybrid Plots, *Cassia hirsuta* seed has been sown to form a green dressing with the advent of the first rains.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a light shower amounting to twelve cents was received during the week, but beyond this, dry weather conditions continued. The tea is showing the effects of the drought, and there is a certain amount of attack by Mites. This is usual during the hot weather when climatic conditions are unfavourable to the Tea. With the first rains, the attack, as a rule, disappears. Where such attack is bad enough to warrant the expenditure, the remedy is to dust the tea with flowers of sulphur. This should be done early in the morning, when the leaves are wet with dew, or the bushes should be first sprayed with water. 688 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 8.3 acres, a yield of about 83 lbs. per acre, which shows the effect of the dry weather. In plot 1, 354 lbs. of green dressing material was obtained and forked in. In plot 5, the existing crop of *Crotalaria striata*, amounting to 567 lbs., was forked in with Basic Slag at the rate of 2 cwt. per acre. Plot 8 received a dressing of slaked lime at the rate of 1,000 lbs. per acre.

On the *Rubber Experiment Stations*, the trees are wintering, and little work is being done. The Farm Managers were on leave during the week. Drains have been cleaned.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

Coimbatore,

1st March, 1922.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT NO. 42.

RAILWAY RATES ON TEA.—Writing under date the 27th February, 1922, the General Traffic Manager, South Indian Railway, notifies a still further enhancement in the revised rates for Tea, in minimum consignments of 160 maunds at Owner's Risk, (Owners to load and unload) from Kodaikanal Road, etc., to Tuticorin, as from the 1st of April, 1922.

The revised rates are as follows :—

From	To	Rate per Maund.
		Rs. A. P.
Kodaikanal Road ...	Tuticorin ...	0 4 0
Tenmalai ...	do. ...	0 4 0
Dindigal ...	do. ...	0 4 3
Trivandrum ...	do. ...	0 7 5

This cancels the rates advised in the Secretary's Report No. 41, issued last week.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.

## MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

*Minutes of a Committee Meeting, held at the Mundakayam Club,  
on Saturday, January 28th, 1922, at 3 p. m.*

PRESENT :—Messrs. F. G. Miller, (President), J. R. Vincent, R. Harley, H. R. Carson Parker, and G. A. Brooke, (Hon. Secy.)

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON 22ND  
PROX — The delegate to this meeting was instructed as follows :—

1. BUDGET FOR 1922-3.—To bring before the meeting in this connection the resolution of this Association, passed at the Committee Meeting, held on December 10th last, namely :—“That the attitude of the M. P. A. S. I in 1918 on the condition that the Rubber Planting Industry was given a Rubber Mycologist, and that, if he is taken from the Industry we shall have to resign the U. P. A. S. I. An alternative suggestion was that, if we are deprived of two-thirds of the services of the Mycologist, we only pay one-third subscription.”

2. REPORT OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.—To support any proposals arising out of this Report which might concur with the suggestions made to the Committee by this Association on December 4th last.

3. S. I. P. B. F.—It was resolved that this Association subscribe annually to this fund the sum of Rs. 25.



The delegate was instructed to bring this resolution to the notice of the meeting, and to suggest that all District Associations be urged to subscribe: and also to bring before the meeting the following resolution passed at the General Meeting, held on January 21st:—"That this Association is of opinion that owners of estates should be asked to subscribe to the Planters' Benevolent Fund, at the rate of Rs. 50 per thousand acres, and in that proportion per annum, and that the appeal be made by the Secretary of the Fund. That this resolution be put before the U. P. A. S. I. at an early opportunity."

CORRESPONDENCE.—Read letters from:—

1. Commissioner, Devicolam, *re* licenses for firearms.
2. Do. do. *re* election of M. L. C., Travancore.
3. Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., *re* exchange.

ELECTION OF M. L. C., TRAVANCORE.—Read a letter from Mr. J. Mackie to the effect that he is prepared to continue as Planting Representative.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to express the Association's willingness to support his candidature.

With a vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting terminated.

(Signed) F. G. MILLAR,

Chairman.

( „ ) G. A. BROOKE,

Honorary Secretary.

## SOUTH TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING, HELD AT QUILON

CLUB, QUILON, ON SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY, 1922.

PRESENT.—Messrs. MacPherson, Farr, Sherman, Mackie, Ross, Knight, Cook (Chairman), and Jackson, (Honorary Secretary)

VISITORS.—Messrs. Branson, Henderson, Keir and C. Hall.

MINUTES.—The notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the quarterly meeting of the 5th November, 1921 were taken as read and confirmed by the meeting.

I. REPORT OF DELEGATE TO COIMBATORE MEETING.—On the unavoidable absence of Mr. Lord, this item had to be postponed till the next meeting.

II. SUBSCRIPTION TO U. P. A. S. I.—As all subscriptions had, in the meantime come in, it was the opinion of the meeting that no further move was necessary. It was also considered that the Association should adhere to the present method of collecting subscription direct from members by the Honorary Secretary.

III. FINAL INSTRUCTION TO SRI MULAM DELEGATE.—The Honorary Secretary, who was elected delegate to the Sri Mulam at the last meeting, read a short report regarding the condition of certain roads brought to his notice by members of the Association, which report is to be put before the Sri Mulam Assembly.

The report was approved of by the meeting.

IV. **PLANTING MEMBER TO TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**—Mr. Mackie, the present member, having signified his willingness to again stand for election, it was proposed from the chair that Mr. Mackie be nominated. This received the full support of the meeting.

V. **INCOME TAX.**—As no one had anything to say, and as further information was unavailable regarding this, the subject was dropped.

VI. **MEMBERSHIP.**—Mr. Branson applied to be admitted as a personal member of the Association, and was accepted.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**—Letter from the General Secretary, Travancore Sambavar Sangham was placed on the table, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write and express sympathy with the aspirations of the Sambavar community.

Letter from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. *re* S. I. P. Benevolent Fund. Mr. C. Hall applied to be admitted as a life member, and the Honorary Secretary was asked to inform the U. P. A. S. I. Secretary accordingly.

Letter from U. P. A. S. I. Inter-District Tennis Tournament. It was the general opinion of the meeting that members of the Association are too isolated to enter for this tournament.

Other correspondence was also dealt with.

(Signed) THOS. JACKSON,

Hon. Secretary.

## WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB, ON THE 1ST MARCH, 1922, AT 2 P.M.

**PRESENT.**—Messrs. C. E. Abbott, (Chairman), B. M. Behr, B. Malcolm, T. P. Gauld, W. G. Craig, P. A. Naylor, S. H. Powell, and J. A. Gwynne, Honorary Secretary.

**VISITORS:**—Revd. H. A. D. Moorhouse, and Mr. B. Vincent.

The notice calling the meeting was read. Mr. Behr, the delegate to the General Committee of the U. P. A. S. I., read his report and explained to the meeting the position created by the failure to pass the 2 annas cess for 1922-23.

The meeting unanimously agreed to pay the same subscription for 1922-23 as that paid for 1921-22, and authorised the Honorary Secretary to send a letter of authority to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., to vote as above at the Meeting to be held on 30th March, 1922.

**DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.**—It was noted from the Report that the Nilgiris were a closed area to outside recruiting, except to existing connections.

**S. I. P. B. FUND.**—The meeting was of opinion that the rules of this Fund should be altered to give more general satisfaction, and that the matter be brought up at a future meeting to frame resolutions for submission to the General Committee.



**LABOUR RATES OF PAY.**—It is noted that the Central Travancore P. A. have given notice that the rate for plucking in Peermade will be increased from three to four pies per lb. of green leaf. Our delegate informed us that other districts were not in favour of this increase.

Mr. Behr was thanked unanimously for the very full report he submitted to the meeting.

**HONORARY SECRETARY.**—The Meeting elected Mr. B. D. Darkin to be Honorary Secretary temporarily in place of Mr. Gwynne, who is leaving for England. The election of a Honorary Secretary for the ensuing year from 1st April will take place at the Annual General Meeting next month.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Gwynne for his work as Honorary Secretary.

MR. C. E. ABBOTT.

Mr. Malcolm spoke of the early departure of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott from the District and of Mr. Abbott's long service to the Association, both as Honorary Secretary and as Chairman. On behalf of the District he expressed regret at their departure, and wished them many years of happiness in their retirement at home.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

(Signed) C. E. ABBOTT,  
Chairman,

( „ ) J. A. GWYNNE,  
Honorary Secretary.

## NILGIRI-WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF A GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT GUDALUR, ON  
SATURDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY, 1922, AT 11 A. M.

**PRESENT:**—Messrs. J. Aird (Chairman), J. E. Bisset, L. Garrett, J. B. Adkins, R. Bentley, G. W. Fulcher, R. Fowke, and F. W. F. Fletcher (Honorary Secretary.)

**VISITORS:**—Messrs. C. F. Minchin and H. J. Mounsey.

The Chairman said:—"Gentlemen, once again it is my sad duty to refer to the death of a well known Nilgiri planter, and a member of our Association, on which he represented Bitherakadu Estate—Mr. W. B. de Courcy. Open hearted and generous to a degree, no one in difficulty or trouble ever sought his help in vain, and he will be sadly missed not only by us, his friends, but by the large number of needy people to whom his purse was always open. I ask you to join me in an expression of our sorrow at his untimely death, and I ask our Honorary Secretary to communicate this to his relatives." The vote of sympathy was passed in silence, all members standing.

**GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING. INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATES.**—The agenda was taken item by item, and a long discussion ensued on the draft budget. Members were unanimous in the opinion that, at a time like

the present, with rubber passing through a crisis which may well wreck the industry, and tea only just recovering from the effects of a record slump, economy should be our watchword. General instructions were given to the delegates to protest against any increase in Head Office or any other charges, it being left to their discretion to see in what directions reductions could be effected after the budget had been fully discussed at the ensuing Committee Meeting.

With regard to the Report of the Labour Commission, to be presented at the above Meeting, the delegates were instructed that, if they found the recommendations made therein fell short of the separation of the Labour Department from the U. P. A. S. I., and reversion to the former system of voluntary subscriptions, they should ask that the Report be sent to all District Associations for discussion before any recommendations were adopted, or any steps taken to carry them out.

The delegates were also instructed to propose that the Proceedings of the last General Committee Meeting be not confirmed, so far as they relate to Rule III of the Inter-District Labour Rules.

The question of the appointment of a Planting Member under the altered conditions now obtaining was discussed in Committee, and certain instructions were given to the delegates.

**COMPENSATION FOR TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS ACT.**—The Honorary Secretary read the correspondence on this subject since the last Meeting. He said that, if letter (No. 5219/Bl. dated 11th January, 1922) from the Secretary to Government Law (General) Department meant anything, it meant that in the view of Government the Act was not necessary in the Nilgiri-Wynaad, yet Government were going to stultify themselves by introducing it! The fact—the incontrovertible and unanswerable fact—was that by consenting to extend the Act to the Nilgiri-Wynaad, Government admitted its necessity, and if it was necessary now it had been necessary from the outset, as our tenure had never varied. We had therefore a perfect right to ask that it should be introduced without any proviso as to the date from which it would apply, so that all leases subsequent to the year in which it was originally passed—1887—might come under its purview. Tenure in Malabar-Wynaad was similar in all respects to tenure in Nilgiri-Wynaad, and the former District had had the protection of the Act since its introduction in 1887. Why then, conditions being the same, should similar protection be denied to us? The Honorary Secretary was instructed to see if he could arrange for a deputation consisting of Sir Fairless Barber, Mr. Nicolls, and himself, to wait on the Law Member, and put the matter from our standpoint.

**INCORPORATION.**—The correspondence on this subject was read, and the Meeting considered that the U. P. A. S. I. office would be preferable in every way as the Association's registered office.

**MAPPILLA LABOUR.**—The Honorary Secretary read letter No. 6902, dated 4th February, 1922, from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. Several members expressed their willingness to employ Mappilla prisoners on the terms set out in the above letter, but they first desired fuller information on the following points:—

(1) What was meant exactly by "police supervision"? Would police be stationed permanently on Estates employing more than 50 Mappillas?



(2) What would be the rates of pay for males and females?

(3) Would Government contribute towards medical charges incurred in respect of this labour?

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to address the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. accordingly.

**LAND ON COWLE.**—Read letter No. 1787-21-A-2, dated 2nd February, 1922, from the Collector of the Nilgiris. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to reply that a start had been made in utilising the land at Pundalur.

**DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER.**—Read letters 4817 and 5339 from the Secretary, UPASI. The Honorary Secretary said he had had no communication from the Wynaad Association with reference to a Meeting to discuss the proposed amalgamation of the District Boards of the Malabar—and Nilgiri—Wynaads. The Meeting learnt from the Chairman with great satisfaction that a member for the District had been appointed to the Nilgiri District Board.

**S. I. P. BENEVOLENT FUND.**—Read letter No. 5537, dated 4th January, 1922 from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to subscribe Rs. 25 on behalf of the N-W. P. A., and subscriptions were promised by two Estates, and five members present. The other members will be addressed.

**TENNIS TOURNAMENT.**—Payment of Rs. 10, being subscription for current year, was sanctioned.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**—Read letters 5125/5-12-21, 5959/3-2-22, and 6058/7-2-22 from Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. with regard to subscriptions, and connected correspondence.

The Meeting approved of the Honorary Secretary's reply to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., dated 7th February, 1922, and agreed to contribute whatever charge the collection of subscriptions direct from the U. P. A. S. I. office might entail.

(Signed) J. AIRD,

Chairman.

( „ ) F. W. F. FLETCHER,

Honorary Secretary.

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### THE U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

We publish this week a further instalment of statistics furnished by the U. P. A. S. I. It will be noticed that the Rubber and Coffee figures do not contain any "previous" balance, as these returns are to be yearly from 1st January. The Tea figures on the other hand will be made up yearly from 1st April of each year, so as to fall into line with the Indian Tea Association's figures.

The production of Tea in South India for the *Calendar* year 1921 is given as follows by the U. P. A. S. I. :—

" The approximate area plucked last year was 68,928 acres belonging to members of District Associations and 7,700 acres belonging to non-members. Inclusive of all, members and non-members, the distribution of areas and crops were :

		Acres plucked.	1921 crop.
MADRAS PRESIDENCY :—			lbs.
Coimbatore District	...	10,552	2,693,000
Nilgiri do	...	13,760	4,935,653
Malabar do	...	8,972	3,000,034
Total...		33,284	10,628,687
Coorg Province	...	316	100,000
Travancore	...	43,028	19,565,027
Total Acres...		76,628	Total lbs. 30,293,714

" In arriving at the above, exact details were received for about 63,500 acres. The yield for the remaining 13,000 acres was estimated according to what was known to be the approximate average yield for each particular district for which returns were not received."

## THE COFFEE MARKET.

Our markets lately have not come in for much comment. Tea, these days, is a steady going concern, and very little happens of sufficient interest to record. Rubber, we simply avoid, since there is little to be gained by chronicling its descent into the uttermost depths. The subject has been thoroughly exhausted by both Eastern and Western writers, and there is no more to be said. There is, in fact, only hope.

Coffee is of spasmodical interest, being as it is a seasonable crop, and it is at this time of year particularly that one wonders how the cat will jump. The Chronicle weekly cable, after showing a rapid fall from 129s. to 115s. this week, notifies some improvement to 126s., and although we are not aware of the direct reason for this erratic course of prices in the last 14 days, we can, with some interest, study the events leading up to Mail week.

Towards the middle of January, Messrs. T. H. Allan & Co. reported very light supplies and a fair demand for home trade qualities. By the 25th of that month, with increased offerings of good coffee, buyers were holding off and prices were lower. The only prices quoted were for Vasambadi (old crop Shevaroy) which fetched 110s. for extra, 103s. for No. 1, and 90s. for P. B. A fortnight later supplies were again reported moderate, consisting chiefly of Costa Rica. A very dull tone continued until the sales of 31st January, when there was a decidedly better demand owing to a few export orders coming in, and by February 7th there was a good demand at full to dearer figures. "The Produce Market's Review" at this time reported a tendency towards higher prices, due to small arrivals, but heavy deliveries were close at hand. The first small parcel of new crop Coorg came up for



sale on 14th February, and two days later further parcels were offered. The standard generally is reported as disappointing, the coffee lacking colour and quality, but the great scarcity of East Indian Coffee on the market at the moment led to good competition, and prices, although irregular, were satisfactory in the circumstances.

## MYSORE.

MARK.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	P. B.	T.
C. and C. Hirvati	... 13'125/	5'112/	1'75/	3'129/	2'76/
Hulsoor	... 13' 95/	12' 85/6	2'65/	6'100/	3'60/
Mockett S & L	... 28'144/6	16'117/	3'88/	7'153/	7'87/6
Chotenhulli	... 5'117/6	6'108/	2'78/	2'103/	1'71/
MN. P.	... 16'126/	11'112/6	2'85/6	4'125/6	1'77/
S. Bababoodan	... 20'139/	15'117/6	4'86/	6'143/	3'77/6
H Bababoodan	... 42'145/	32'130/6	6'88/	...	...
H. G. S.	... 10'125/6	9'112/	2'81/	2'114/6	1'72/
Anekul	... 8'129/	3'108/6	1'71/	1'116/	1'65/

## COORG.

Wrights Horoor	... 14 122/	27'110/	7'87/	7'122/	5'81/
Koorghully	... 37'123/6	41'119/	7'85/	19'146/6	16'85/6
EAF Wooligooly	... 14'115/	13'105/	2'77/	5'115/	6'79/6
HCW, Billikerre	... 4'110/	5' 99/6	1'66/	2'116/	1'63/

Locally, Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co., Coimbatore, report a continued rise and Rs. 75 ex-bags has been realised. Prices at Mangalore are on the same level. Higher prices are anticipated ere long. Volkarts, Mangalore, reported at the end of February, Rs. 350, and over for Native where there was a full amount of Peaberry, and Rs. 375 was paid for one small lot of 3 candelas.

## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
COMMITTEE, HELD AT CALCUTTA, ON 14TH FEBRUARY, 1922.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION (LONDON).—Letters, dated 19th and 26th January, 1922, from the Indian Tea Association (London) were considered, and were to be recorded. The principal subjects dealt with in these letters were as follows:—

- (a) *Homeward Bill of Lading and the Hague Rules, 1921.*—In connection with this matter it was mentioned that a meeting of representatives of the various Trade Associations which opposed the Hague Rules had taken place on 17th January, the Indian Tea Association (London) being represented at it by the Vice-Chairman. It had then been arranged to form an Association called "The British Federation of Traders' Associations", with the object of protecting the interests of members in all matters relating to shipping. A copy of the proceedings of the meeting referred to was forwarded, and the terms of the resolutions adopted at it were now noted.

- (b) *Anchor-Brocklebank Line Bill of Lading*.—It was stated that the attention of the London Association had been drawn to the insertion, by the Anchor-Brocklebank Line, of a new clause in their bill of lading without reference to the Association under the terms of clause 8 of the Ocean Freight Agreement, and that the agents of the line had been addressed on the question; they had replied that it was not the intention that the clause should be attached to bills of lading for direct steamers to London, by which shipments of tea are usually made.

OCEAN FREIGHT AGREEMENT.—*The tea rate for February*:—A letter dated 1st February from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce announced that the tea rate for February would be £2-12-6. This rate had been intimated to members, and cables had been sent with the information to the London Association and to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—There had been received from the London Association, enclosed with their letter, dated 11th January, a copy of the report on the proceedings at the above Conference prepared by Mr. A. U. Crowe. This report had been read by members of Committee with great interest, who directed that Mr. Crowe should be specially thanked for his detailed and comprehensive report.

1820 MEMORIAL SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—A letter, dated 24th January, had been received from Mr. Mackie Niven, bringing to the notice of the Association various particulars regarding the above-mentioned Association in South Africa. Mr. Niven's idea was not to entice planters from India, but to draw the attention of those men who were thinking of retiring or leaving India to the facilities and advantages of settlement in the Union of South Africa or Rhodesia. Pamphlets were enclosed by Mr. Niven showing the object and scope of the Memorial Settlers' Association, from which the following is an extract:—

The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, with its head offices in Juta's Buildings, Adderley Street, Capetown, and its branches in every town and district in the Union of South Africa, is established in order to receive, guide, and advise all settlers arriving in South Africa.

This Association neither buys nor sells land. It provides tuition gratis with leading South African farmers, its sole object being to attract and establish settlers with some capital upon the land, and provide safeguards against ill advised purchases.

It must be remembered that, whilst on the whole the climate of the Union of South Africa is salubrious and suitable for Europeans, their women and children, there are malarial districts, and parts which must be avoided.

South Africa is developing fast, and considerable areas of land, some under irrigation, are being offered for sale, in some cases at prices far above their market value.



The advice of this Settlers' Association is that in no case should land be purchased in the South African Union until the settler has personally seen it. If this advice, which is also given by the best land companies, is followed, there will be no danger of disappointment and loss of capital.

Hundreds of the leading South African farmers are ready to take and train this Association's settlers gratis; such training will obviously avoid the danger of loss of capital through inexperience, and every settler should avail himself of a period of training before expending any capital upon the purchase of land.

Further information on the subject can be obtained from—

The Secretary,

1820 Memorial Settlers' Association,

(India Branch), Delhi.

The Committee directed that this letter and accompanying pamphlets should be sent to the local Branches and Associations and to the United Planters' Association of Southern India, for information.

IMPORTATION OF INDIAN TEA SEED INTO COLOMBO.—A letter, dated 27th January had been received from Messrs. Barry & Co., bringing to the notice of the Association a recent ordinance passed by the Ceylon Government at the instance, it was understood, of the Ceylon Planters' Association, prohibiting the importation into Ceylon of tea seed either directly or indirectly from any place in India. It appeared that the reason put forward for this action by the Ceylon Planters' Association was that they were afraid of the possible introduction of blights through imported seed. Messrs. Barry & Co., made the suggestion that the trade of importing tea seed from India into Ceylon might be allowed to continue, provided that all consignments were properly fumigated on landing at Colombo, and they suggested that recommendations should be made to this effect.

The Committee directed that Messrs. Barry & Co. should be informed that there was practically no chance of getting the restriction complained of relaxed, as it had been passed only after long consideration and discussion in Ceylon. Messrs. Barry & Co. were to be further informed that the Chairman of the Association might be in a position to give them further details in the matter if they were to apply to him personally.

## COWS.

By R. CECIL WOOD.

Judging by the number of enquiries which I receive from time to time, about the possibility of purchasing good milch cows, the problem must be one of general interest to the residents of most planting districts.

The solution of the problem is not however simple, nor will it be solved quickly. It is almost impossible to purchase a really good half-bred milking cow at the present time. I specify a half-bred animal, because there are in the South of India, at any rate, no really good Indian milch

cattle. In these circumstances, the only alternative is to breed them oneself, a lengthy but not an impossible task, and one of considerable interest to those who are fond of animals.

The first requisite is a good sire, and fortunately these are becoming more common and easily obtainable. The Government have several half-bred bulls standing in Madras. There are quite a number of half-bred bulls produced at the Military Dairy Farms\* at Madras and at Wellington, which are actually for sale, while there are frequently one or two to be picked up at the Coimbatore Central Farm. Such a bull, will, if he has been properly received and fed, be ready for occasional service, after his second birthday, or as soon as he has cut his first pair of permanent teeth, as his foreign blood will tend to make him rather more precocious than the indigenous animal. He can be put to any type of Indian cow, and if he is a good bull will produce good stock, as experience seems to show that the prepotency and vigour of the foreign strain is marked enough to outweigh the qualities of the dam. Of course, it will happen that most of the calves born to him will be of the wrong sex; but that cannot be helped, and one must persevere. The heifer calves so produced will be worth considerably more attention than the country scrubs and, without being coddled, will pay for the best feeding. Milk is of course the best food for them, and if it can be spared, they may be allowed one or perhaps two teats to themselves, and they will respond in a wonderful way.

If it is inconvenient to purchase a bull of one's own, the alternative is to make use of the imported bulls available in the country, and here a splendid opportunity presents itself, in the presence of two first class Ayrshire Bulls, the property of Government, which have just been sent to stand at stud at Ootacamund. These bulls were selected with considerable care, and represent pretty well the highest type of dairy animal in the world: needless to say, they cost a fair figure. Planters who do not live in the neighbourhood of Ootacamund may ask why should both of them stand at the same place, but reflection will show that it is better to be certain of getting a service when you do send your cow, than run the risk of finding a single bull out of action. The difficulty of distance can be solved by arranging for accommodation at Ootacamund, and it would be well worth while the United Planters' Association of South India, or the local Association taking the matter up. If a cow comes into season and is not bulled, she will probably freshen again in three weeks or so, an interval which will enable her to be sent quietly by road, and rested in a comfortable shed at Ootacamund until she is ready for the bull.

The opportunity is one not to be lost. The bulls, their names are "Howie's Skipper" and "Ellarton Knighthood" represent something better than we are likely to see again: they were unfortunately unable to stand the climate of Madras, and it is possible, of course, that they may not stand Ootacamund, so that now is the time to make the fullest use of them.

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\* The Military Dairy Farm bull-calves are all weaned from birth, and as they are not necessary for the milk production of the mother they are sold off as soon as possible, and it would be necessary to make arrangements to get these reared until they were strong enough to travel, but this should not prove an insuperable difficulty.



## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA.

For the Month of January, 1922.

	To-Other Ports in India,	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Other Places in Asia.	America.	Australia.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras	200	...	...	...	562	...	...
Calicut	21,620	3,716	1,085,468	1,100	...	...	...
Cochin	107,064	...	567,966	600	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	9,770	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	48,445	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	86,264	1,124,064	...	...	...	...
Minor Ports	...	10,753	...	...	...	...	...
Totals : This Month...	128,884	110,503	2,825,943	1,700	562	...	...
Previously from: 1-4-21 to 31-12-21...	98,716	3,081,281	17,230,377	69,924	3,324	469	12,621
Total: 1-4-21 to 31-1-22...	227,600	3,191,784	20,056,320	71,624	3,886	469	12,621
Grand Total Exports	...	...	23,564,304	...	...	...	...

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER

For the month of January, 1922.

From	To—Other Ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	America.
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Calicut	...	366	39	...	...
Cochin	...	...	2,630	331	1,956
Tuticorin	...	868	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	121	62	...	9
Totals...	1,543	1,355	2,731	331	1,965

Grand Total Exports ... 7,925 cwts.



# SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN COFFEE.

For the month of January, 1922.

From	To—Other Ports in India.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Other places in Asia.	Africa.	Australia.
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Madras.	...	...	...	5	...	...
Calicut.	...	387	406	...	...	926
Mangalore.	...	958	1,491	40	...	...
Tellicherry	...	1,337	37	...	...	...
Tuticorin.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay.	636	...	...	419	66	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	845	2,682	1,934	464	66	926

Grand Total Exports ... 6,917 cwts.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

### Coffee Hybrids.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 21st February you published a letter from me about 'Kents Selected.'

I made a mistake in saying the spread was from 10 to 12 feet. It should have been 8 to 10 feet.

Yours faithfully,  
N. KIRWAN.

Raitha Mulla Estate,  
3-3-22.

### Upasi Head Office Expenditure.

Sir,—Mr. Newcome's letter of the 17-2-22 which appeared in your last issue of the "Planters' Chronicle" has filled me with admiration. I agree with him on every point, but I do not think he has enlarged sufficiently on some of them, and with your permission, Mr. Editor, I will take this opportunity of doing so.

Mr. Newcome writes: There would be no titles, free trips to Europe or Geneva Conference for the heads of local Associations under the scheme he advocates.

This is splendid. One has only to turn to page 1 of the "P. C." in question to read the description of the unveiling ceremony of the portrait of the only titled planter, to be convinced of the absurdity of conferring a title on the gentleman in question. What has he done to deserve this honour, an honour which some imaginative planters have the temerity to say confers an honour on the whole planting community? Far better that it should be conferred on the writer or Mr. Newcome himself who, instead of pushing himself forward in an unwarranted manner during a very critical time, sat quietly on the Tote and kept the "Home fires burning."

Then we have the free trip to Europe. I have an idea that most people are entitled to a free trip to Europe after a certain period, but quite agree that an employee of a "bloated nonentity," should not be permitted this privilege.

As for the Geneva Conference, the expenses, which I understand were borne by Government, this I consider scandalous. How anyone connected with the planting industry could possibly listen to any scheme that would tend to make his labour happier and healthier passes my understanding. I, personally, have nothing to do with my coolies, neither do I take much interest in them, but I have an excellent writer who has been with me 12 years, and he assures me that any such scheme as advocated above would be ruinous.



Mr. Newcome next attacks the Labour Department. As I have already intimated I take no interest in my labour, but leave it, and the working of it, to my excellent writer. My writer has complained bitterly that the Labour Department cramps his style. It has a nasty habit of interfering when he wants to make a perfectly good advance to somebody else's maistry, and when he has sometimes succeeded in getting a cooly or two, they positively worry him for the return of the cooly or his debt in cash. He also informs me that the Labour Department is no respecter of persons, and adopts the same uncompromising attitude towards powerful concerns out to get labour at any cost. This is all wrong in my opinion.

Mr. Newcome has something to say about manures, but here I am at a loss. I don't manure, as my writer does not approve of it. I think, however, Mr. Newcome's scheme of using his brains for a cheap manure excellent.

Mr. Newcome's idea of each Association working separately, kept together by good will and the fear of boycott is beautiful. There is nothing in this scheme to prevent each District starting its own little Labour Agency, and then just imagine the fun that would go on in the recruiting districts. Each Association, caring nothing for the boycott of any other Association, would set busily to work stealing each other's coolies, and cutting each other's throats. My writer is delighted with the scheme, but wisely points out that when the little fellows have exhausted themselves the big fellows will step in and bag the proceeds. However he is quite confident that he can hold his own, and says in his quaint way that it will be a good "Tamash", but I imagine it would be nothing to the "tamash" that would take place when the delegates of the three main products and their Chairman meet at Bangalore.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I must admit that you will not find my estate on your list of subscribers. It has been my proud boast that I have never subscribed to the UPASI, but I have friends who do, and they occasionally pass me on a "Chronicle" to read. Nevertheless, I hope you will find space for this letter in your next issue, and that you will send me a free copy. Mr. Newcome quotes a fable. I should like to do likewise, but the only one I can think of at the moment is something about a fox and sour grapes. Do you think Mr. Editor it would appear inappropriate in the circumstances under discussion?

Yours faithfully,

JAMES MAC ALPINE.

### **Kent's Arabica Coffee.**

Sir,—I was glad to see Mr. Kirwan's letter *re* coffee hybrids in your issue of 18th February. It describes my first clearing very exactly. Mr. Kirwan is however in error in thinking that his clearing was grown from seed from the original netted trees, it was from seed chosen by Major L. E. Kirwan in 1917 from my first generation plants. I have now 5 generations, each made from the finest plants (netted) in the previous clearings, and I find that the percentage of plants true to type increases with each generation. My first clearing was exactly similar to Mr. Kirwan's in amount of plants true to type, and also variations, the second gave 70

per cent true, the 3rd 80 to 85 (and from this all seed was made this season), the 4th generation has an even better percentage, and I am hopeful of getting the strain quite true shortly. The variations in type are either sports or the result of cross fertilization, and should be eliminated from clearings. There is undoubtedly a strain of the old Chick in my Arabica, as it has all its good features combined with the vigour the Coorg had before the days of leaf disease, and is astonishingly disease resistant. A sample sent home for Report and Valuation called forth the remark "That the sample reminded them of the old Mysore coffee of 40 years ago", which strengthens the impression that the strain is a cross between the Chick and the Coorg, but unfortunately the origin of my original trees is obscure. Mr. Kirwan's remark "that vacancies planted among old coffee come on 3 or 4 years quicker than ordinary coffee" is quite true, and I have them luxuriating in land that failed to grow the Coorg altogether. The cropping power is at least double that of the latter. Mr. Kirwan speaks of my coffee as "Selected." I named it "Kent's Arabica" to dispel any impression that it is a hybrid; it is a true Arabica as proved by the

1. Evenness of the sample.
2. The lack of malformed and empty beans, and
3. The thorough germination of the seed.

Yours faithfully,

L. P. KENT,  
Doddengooda,

5th March, 1922.

Mudigeri P. O., Kadur District.

## WHAT IS YORKSHIRE SERGE?

A perfect pure wool cloth for gentlemen's suits. It is remarkable for its durability and smartness and being Indigo Blue its dye never fades. Price 25/6 or 3½ yard suit length. Superior quality 31/-. If 3 lengths are ordered the linings are supplied free. Postage 3/6. 6 Lengths in one order sent Post Free. Money returned if not satisfied. Goods forwarded per C. O. D. Apply direct to:—

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For fresh Vegetables and Flower Seeds, Economic and Ornamental Plants.

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By experienced Planter, billet as Superintendent or Senior Assistant in Tea, Coffee or Rubber Knowledge of several languages and good with Labour. Excellent testimonials and references.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

VOL. XVII. No. 11.]

MARCH 18, 1922.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 10th March, 1922.

128s./- per cwt. Market Firm.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

(INCORPORATED.)

### Labour Department.

#### I.

(Season Report on Tinnevely District and South Travancore (Nagercoil)

### PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION.

There is every reason to believe that the present paddy crop now being harvested will be a bumper crop. Certain portions of the District, especially in the Srivaikuntam Taluk, suffered during the drought that occurred three or four months back, but this did not effect the cultivation under artificial irrigation to any great extent. The harvest season varies in the District, in some cases by four to five weeks. Commencing in the Southern

half of the Nanguneri Taluk and the Nagercoil Area as early as the last week in January, it works its way up through the Tenkasi-Ambasamudram Taluks on the west and the Trichendur-Srivaikuntam Taluks on the East. Harvesting in the area, roughly speaking, round Tinnevely, Maniachi, Gengaikondan, Keelapoovani, Sinkathakurichi, Kayatar, Elavelangal, Maruthanvalvoo which is a heavily recruited area, did not get much weigh on before the 25th February—a month after harvesting had started in the southern part of the District and Nagercoil way.

Rain has threatened in certain parts of the District, and in Tinnevely there has been a heavy downpour which will damage the crops very considerably, and tend to reduce wages.

I am often asked what the wages are in the low country, and I am afraid my replies are in many cases not corroborated by information obtained by planters from the Estate labour. This is due to the varied rates that prevail, I might almost say, in every village. It is one of the most difficult subjects to obtain accurate information of. The nearest approach to a definite wage is that paid to the professional nomadic (sic) harvesting and sowing gangs that work their way through the District from village to village during the crop seasons. This is not the type of cooly that seeks employment on estates, as they can earn sufficient during the harvest and sowing seasons to keep themselves for the remaining five to six months of the year, supplemented by odd jobs such as building work, weeding, repairing irrigation channels, etc. The "all-in" wage of such coolies during the harvesting and planting seasons ranges from twelve annas to one rupee four annas; and is mostly women labour. Wages are for the most part paid in kind. The wage earned by the ordinary *totum* cooly who returns to his village is between five to seven annas for women and 8 to 9 annas for men.

I do not think it is altogether the lure of high wages that draws the labour from estates at this particular time of the year. The harvest season and right up to May—June is crowded with various big and small festivals dear to the Tamil's heart, and this period is also considered an auspicious time of the year to enter on the matrimonial sea of life.

Besides paddy, cholam and one or two minor crops, such as chillies, there is not much else grown in the District. The Koilpatti Taluk which has recently been transferred to this Division is mainly cotton cultivation.

Many coolies prefer to remain in the low country till end of June, when the planting of paddy takes place. It is unlikely the labour will commence to leave the low country in large numbers before the 15 - 20th April, when the harvest season will then be on the wane. Ploughing will be commenced after the rains in April—May—known as the mango showers—and, if these rains are in the least bit late the labour can be induced to leave the low country sooner than otherwise would be the case, and I would strongly recommend all Superintendents to place me in funds for payment of coolies' way expenses, to avoid delay when kanganies apply to me for entrainment. Coolies' way expenses will not be paid out without the Superintendent's written authority, and it is therefore advisable to inform me of the names of all kanganies and sub-kanganies to whom way expenses may be disbursed, and the rate per head for each cooly. This is a point I would like to emphasise. It is a frequent occurrence for kanganies and coolies to apply to me for way expenses without any authority from the Superintendent, and in most cases I have paid the way expenses on my own



responsibility, but as this is an extremely unsatisfactory method and likely to place me in trouble I have entirely discontinued doing so.

(*Vide* Palamcottah office Circular No. 141, dated the 27th Feb. 1922).

In cases where kanganies apply to me in future for way expenses and there is no authority from the estate to pay same, the estate concerned will be informed by telegram, and money will be paid out on receipt of instructions, provided there are sufficient funds standing to the credit of the estate concerned to meet same. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of all Superintendents to my Circular No. 138 of the 6th February, 1922 regarding the arrangements that have been made with the South Indian Railway Company, by which Railway Warrants for travelling can now be issued by the Labour Department to kanganies, sub-kanganies and coolies instead of the hard cash, as hitherto.

## II.

### S. CANARA DIVISION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1922.

**WEATHER.**—Has been hot, and the country has already attained hot weather conditions.

**CROPS.**—A certain amount of irrigation of third crops is going on where water is available, and cottage crops such as vegetables, &c., are being cultivated. Thatching grass has been collected and stored. The tobacco crop down the coast is excellent this year, and its cultivation is being extended.

**PRICE OF GRAIN.**—Rice is at Rs. 7 per Murah of 42 measures, or 84 lbs., and is in excess of last year, owing to the failure of the N.-E. Monsoon. A further rise in price is anticipated in the near future.

**LABOUR.**—Coffee Estate labour is now all up country, and will not return till April. Tea Estate coolies in some instances were paid off early in February this year, and have returned to their villages. It is hoped that these coolies may be induced to return to the estates in April instead of May/June, but custom dies hard, and it may take a season or two to induce them to fall in with the new arrangements.

**HEALTH.**—There has been a bad outbreak of small-pox in Udipi town and its surroundings, but otherwise the health of the population is good.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

### REPORT NO. 9 OF 1922. (5TH—11TH MARCH.)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, expects to leave head-quarters on 17th, to tour in the High Range. He will probably be back on 7th April.

2. **MARIGOGIPE COFFEE.**—A small quantity of seed of this variety of Coffee is required for the Experiment Station at Peradeniya, Ceylon. Will some Coffee planter be good enough to oblige me with this? Possibly, "L. N." can oblige. By the way, if that gentleman would do us the

honour of reading our weekly reports regularly, he would see that plots of hybrid coffee were established at the Coffee Experiment Station, some time ago, and the seed recently obtained was to ensure supplies. At the Station, we have two plots side by side, on exactly similar land of Jackson's and Kent's for *purposes of comparison*. The correspondence now going on does not sufficiently bring out this point, and I should like to hear from men who have tried both, side by side. A cross between Marigogipe and Kent's would be worth while making, but such a cross is not made in a day or a year, and can only be thought of when the two varieties are growing close to one another. Perhaps, "L. N." will undertake to make such a cross. If so, this Department will be glad to give him every aid in our power.

3. Cows.—Attention is drawn to the list of stock, which will be sold during this month, at the Central Farm, Coimbatore.

4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS.—(26th February—4th March).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, hot weather conditions continue. Pruning on the Station has been finished, and supplies are being mulched, and where necessary shaded.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, hot weather prevailed, and the Tea is showing the effect of the drought to a marked degree, especially in the unpruned area. Mite attack is rather severe. The pruned areas are giving better yields, and are responding to the dew. 819 lbs. of leaf were plucked from 7.25 acres during the week, a yield of 113 lbs. per acre as compared with 83 lbs. last week. Plots 2, 3 and 6 were forked and manured with Flour Phosphate with and without lime and Basic Slag and Lime, respectively. On Plot 3, the *Crotalaria striata* was buried, but only yielded 183 lbs. of green stuff.

On the *Rubber Experiment Stations*, little work can be done. The trees are beginning to flower. The Indigo, being tried as a cover crop at Mooply, has been identified as *Indigofera endecaphylla*. This is beginning to dry off, due to the drought. At Tenmalai, there was a shower during the week, amounting to 1.87 inches, which has been of great benefit to the cover crop.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## COWS.

*Apr*opos of the article in the last number of the Chronicle, I have obtained from the Superintendent, Central Farm, a list of the following bull calves which will be sold in auction towards the end of the month or at the beginning of April. Four of them have been sired by the Pusa bull now on the Central Farm, a fine cross-bred Ayrshire Montgomery animal, an ancestry which should beget high milk production. The sires of the other two are unknown: they were purchased with their dams, who are in both cases half-bred animals. The details are given below with the approximate valuations:—

1. By Pusa out of Sarah. The dam is a half-bred Jersey who has done extremely well in her first lactation period. Age 15 months (Rs. 50)



2. By Pusa out of Thanam. Age 10 months. (Rs. 25.)

3. Pusa out of Sivappi. The cow is a very nice looking animal, and is the mother of two cows now doing very well on the Farm. Age 8 months. (Rs. 20.)

4. By Pusa out of a cow recently purchased in Coimbatore. The calf has been exceptionally well treated, and though only just a year old is a splendid little animal. (Rs. 100.)

5. Sire unknown: dam Beauty, a half-bred Jersey, 13 months (Rs. 70.)

6. Sire unknown: dam Nell. 13 months (Rs. 40.)

I myself expect to be away from head-quarters at the end of the month, but planters who may wish to buy any of these animals, and who cannot come to Coimbatore for the purpose, could, no doubt, arrange for some one from the U. P. A. S. I. Office to bid for them.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA

Coimbatore,

15th March, 1922.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT NO. 43.

1. **SEX DISQUALIFICATION.**—The Government of India asked for the views of this Association as to whether the Sex bar held to disqualify women from enrolment as legal practitioners in the Courts of this country should be removed. The majority of the Executive Committee has no objection to this Sex bar being removed, and the Government of India have been informed accordingly.

2. **RATES OF PAY.**—In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Annual General Meeting, particulars were collected from every District Association as regards the Rates of Pay and conditions of the Employment of Labour, including particulars of bonuses and allowances of all kinds. Even within districts, rates and allowances vary to a very great extent. All the particulars received have been tabulated, and the results forwarded to the South Indian Association in London.

3. **INTER-DISTRICT SPORTS.**—As will have been seen from the "Planters' Chronicle," arrangements have been made to start an Inter-District Golf Tournament this year, as was decided on at the Annual Meeting last August. All District Associations have been written to, in order to ascertain how many Districts are likely to enter teams for the Tournament, which will be held at Bangalore at the time of the next Annual Meeting. In view of the departure of Mr. E. Vincent on furlough shortly, the Honorary Secretaryship of the Inter-District Sports Committee has been taken over by the Assistant Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I., to whom all communications should be sent.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.

# UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA, (Incorporated.)

## INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS TOURNAMENT, 1922

### *Drawing List.*

GROUPS.		1st Round to be completed by 30th April.	2nd Round to be completed by 30th June.	Semi-final to be completed by 15th August.	FINAL to be played on a date to be fixed later.
"C"	Wynaad	Bye	.....	.....	.....
	Nilgiri-Wynaad	Bye	.....	.....	.....
	Nilgiris	Bye	.....	.....	.....
	U. P. A. S. I.	Bye	.....	.....	.....
"A"	Central Travancore	Bye	.....	.....	.....
	West Coast V.	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Mundakayam.	.....	.....	.....	.....
"B"	High Range. V.	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Anamalais.	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Shevaroyas	Bye	.....	.....	.....



**TRAVANCORE COMBINED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THIS ASSOCIATION WAS HELD AT THE QUILON CLUB, ON SATURDAY THE 25TH FEBRUARY, 1922.

PRESENT.—Messrs. R. Tait, Central Travancore Planters' Association, G. W. Cole, Kanan Devan Hills Planters' Association, T. L. Jackson, South Travancore Planters' Association, E. Lord, representing Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd., and L. A. Lampard, Honorary Secretary.

VISITORS.—Mr. C. J. Hall,

Notice calling the Meeting was read, and the Agenda was as follows :—

1. Minutes of last meeting.
2. Honorary Secretary's Report and submission of accounts.
3. Rubber Mycologist.
4. Travancore Income Tax.
5. Roads.
6. Subjects for Sri Mulam.
7. Election of Office Bearers for 1922.
8. Other business brought forward.

Mr. R. Tait took the chair.

The Minutes of the meeting of 26th February, 1921, were read, approved and signed.

The accounts for year ending 31st December, 1921, were passed :—

Mr. J. R. Vincent's letter on the subject of the *Rubber Mycologist* was read to the Meeting, and it was regretted that, as Mr. Vincent was not present to explain what procedure should be adopted, it was not possible to take any action.

The provisions and the method of collection as laid down in the Travancore *Income Tax Regulations* were discussed at some length, and the Delegates exchanged interesting information and facts.

The condition of *Roads* in the State was discussed as usual, and the Delegates agreed to support one another in their requests.

The Delegate from the Central Travancore Planters' Association raised the question of damage by wild *elephants*. As all present at the meeting had had either actual experience or some knowledge of the subject, an interesting discussion followed. The subject has been continually brought to the notice of Government, but no satisfaction has yet been obtained. It was agreed that a deputation of the Delegates should again wait on Government and submit its grievance.

The election of *Office Bearers* for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and Mr. J. R. Vincent was elected Chairman, Mr. R. Tait, Vice-Chairman and Mr. L. A. Lampard, Honorary Secretary.

It was proposed by Mr. Tait and seconded by Mr. Jackson that the *annual subscription* be reduced from Rs. 25 to Rs. 15. It was pointed out that ample funds were at present in hand, and the annual expenditure was very moderate. The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

TRAVANCORE COMBINED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION,

Income and Expenditure Account for twelve months ending 31st December, 1921.

Postage and Telegrams	Rs.	A.	P.		
Stationery and Printing	...	2	14	6	
Typist's Salary	...	...	...	...	
Donation to South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund	...	50	0	0	
...	...	1,000	0	0	
Total...		1,052	14	6	

Subscriptions—10 months at Rs. 25	Rs.	A.	P.
Interest	...	250	0 0
Sundry Receipts	...	22	6 7
Excess of expenditure over income	...	9	8 0
	...	770	15 11
Total...		1,052	14 6

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1921.

Income and Expenditure Account—	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Credit at 1st January 1921	...	1,360	14	6		
Less—Excess of Expenditure over Income—						
1st January to 31st December, 1921	...	770	15	11		
					589	14 7
					589	14 7

Examined with books and vouchers and found correct.

Quilon, 1st February, 1922.

(Signed) H. F. GAYNOR.

(Signed) L. A. LAMPARD,  
Hon. Secretary.



## RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON

## Monthly Statistics.

FEBRUARY, 1922.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

## IMPORTS.

From	January.			12 Months ended Dec.		
	1922.	1921.	1920.	1921.	1920.	1913.
Straits Settlements and F. M. S. ...	4,063	7,126	3,340	48,550	59,672	24,984
Ceylon and British India ...	1,471	1,866	2,873	18,649	26,912	7,583
Dutch East Indies, &c. ...	581	1,341	829	14,950	12,940	1,647
Brazil and Peru ...	311	313	426	2,164	8,290	17,532
Other Countries ...	95	125	221	678	3,064	18,542
Total Tons	6,521	10,771	7,689	84,991	110,878	70,288

## EXPORTS.

To	January.			12 Months ended Dec.		
	1922.	1921.	1920.	1921.	1920.	1913.
United States of America ...	5,659	178	5,625	20,504	24,849	17,791
Canada ...	39	11	649	137	3,245	439
France ...	1,619	244	1,054	8,068	11,920	5,319
Belgium ...	94	114	216	1,142	2,163	2,269
Italy ...	188	160	136	1,304	2,689	252
Spain ...	47	7	14	170	229	65
Germany, Austria, Hungary	772	406	253	7,951	5,319	9,869
Russia ...	...	...	4	163	63	6,354
Sweden, Norway and Denmark ...	13	161	58	766	1,298	650
Other Countries in Europe ...	65	83	83	2,613	1,080	1,247
Other Extra Euro- pean Countries...	1	12	107	54	1,052	757
Total Tons	8,497	1,376	8,199	42,872	53,907	45,012

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the month of January.

			Deli.	Stocks 31st Jan.		
		Landed	vered			
		for Jan.	for Jan.	1922.	1921.	1920.
LONDON	...					
	{ Plantation ...	4,656	7,199	67,069	56,165	20,530
	{ Other Grades...	13	17	183	408	570
LIVERPOOL...	{ Plantation ...	130†	448†	7,784†	4,347†	1,511†
	{ Para & Peruvian	170	420	1,060	903	520
	{ Other Grades.,	...	14	443	456	383
Totals London & Liverpool ...		4,969	8,098	76,539	62,279	23,514

† Official Returns from the six recognised Public Warehouses.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber, excluding Gutta, Balata and Guayule, to and from the U. S. A., AS PER RETURNS OF THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

		November.			11 Months ended Nov.		
		1921.	1920.	1919.	1921.	1920.	1919.
IMPORTS ...		23,094	14,712	24,913	159,209	242,135	214,508
EXPORTS ...		465	250	109	5,135	3,442	1,859

RECEIPTS AT PARA.

		January.			Jan./Dec. (12 months).		
		1922.	1921.	1920.	1921.	1920.	1919.
Rubber ...		1,027*	2,027	2,620	15,347	21,690	27,435
Caucho ...		280*	320	300	4,843	6,471	7,160
Total...		1,307	2,347	2,920	20,190	28,161	34,595

\* Estimated

1919/1920 figures corrected.



## MARKET REPORTS.

From reports to hand by last mail we note further sales of old crop Shevaroy's Coffee as follows :—

Mark.	O.	A.	B.	C.	PB.	T.
Vanniar ...	100/6	88/	80/	73/	89/	70/
Vasambadi ...	101/6	93/	80/6	75/	85/	65/
and New crop.						
Wrights.						
Hooroor Mountain ...		122/	110/	89/	122/	81/
Castlecroft ...	128/6	115/	95/	80/	124/6	77/6

As mentioned last week, further reports confirm the fact that the New crop East Indians are generally poor samples, and coffee of similar appearance from Costa Rica would not have sold at anything approaching the prices quoted. The trade is short at the moment, and that is all there is to be said about it. Locally, Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co. report that the market has been firm with very little business resulting, due, they think, to profit taking by native holders. Rs 76 ex. bags has been realised at Mangalore, but Coimbatore values good assortment at Rs. 74 to Rs. 75 ex. bags.

## MONTHLY STATISTICS TO JANUARY 31ST.

## Coffee.

	1922.	1921.	1920.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
<b>EAST INDIA—</b>			
Landed ...	24	7	57
Delivered ...	116	250	218
Stock ...	315	797	982
<b>ALL AFRICA—</b>			
Landed ...	142	65	155
Delivered ...	344	361	182
Stock ...	887	1,521	990
<b>COFFEE OF ALL KINDS—</b>			
Stock in London to January 31st ...	10,987	19,150	19,635
Total European Imports ..	32,120	17,175	29,645
„ „ Deliveries ..	34,000	24,410	32,825
„ „ Stock on ..	104,120	106,885	123,825
World's Visible Supply on ..	546,650	505,705	529,000

### Tea.

Tea appears to have settled down to a steady run of prosperity. From week to week we read of variations in quantity offered, but this does not seem to affect prices much. Good to fine teas are always in request. We notice sales of B. O. P. as follows :—

Nallatanni 1s. 5½d., Granby 1s. 5½d., Thengakal 1s. 5½d., Daverashola 1s. 7½d.—1s. 7d., Dymock, Lockhart, Karamalai, and Stagbrook 1s. 5d., Naduar 1s. 7½d., Pilloor 1s. 6½d., Prospect 1s. 6½d., Surinalle 1s. 5½d., and Thiashola 1s. 6½d.

### Rubber.

Messrs. Sanderson & Co. state that the sharp decline is chiefly attributable to the publication of the first list of January Estate crop Returns. This list comprises 80 estates, and the average increase on last year is approximately 30%. This is very disquieting to the market, as a continuance of such crops throughout the year would mean an addition of about 80,000 tons to last year's crop. Obviously, with the present consumption, such a crop would be practically unmarketable.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

### The U. P. A. S. I. and its Head-Quarters.

Sir,—From what one hears, and a great deal more is said than appears in print, it is evident that the affairs of the Association are in a critical condition, and it is a case of now or never. The whole situation requires ventilating and readjusting; and therefore such letters as those of Messrs Vincent, Murphy, and Newcome, should be welcomed, no matter what opinions may be expressed. Every communication of this nature adds to our information, and personal views should be invited and not deprecated. Unhappily in the past there has been some neglect and disdain of individual opinion: a fatal error in an Association which ostensibly aims at union and mutual support. One thing is however obvious, and that is the U. P. A. S. I. must be loyally and vigorously upheld, whatever the cost or inconvenience may be. The writing is on the wall, and the enemy at our gate, and disruption of the Association at this stage would mean the early extinction of the European planter.



Assuming that reforms and re-adjustments are called for, then the following salient points will be found to stand out prominently in a review of the Association's affairs during the past few years:—(a) That the Labour Department has been allowed to unduly dominate the U. P. A. S. I., instead of the situation being just the reverse: in fact the tail has been wagging the dog! A little thought will show that the U. P. A. S. I. could exist and make itself felt even without a Labour Department; but that the latter by itself would soon cease to function if there was no Association to keep planters together under some common bond of union and mutual support. (b) That what may be called the trail of Madras has been adversely influencing the management of the U. P. A. S. I. It has distracted attention from essentials, divided members into factions, caused uncertainty, and destroyed fixity of purpose, and continuity of practical work. As long as this baneful obsession about moving to Madras is allowed to exist, there can be no finality about anything, nor any settled progress. (c) That the various activities of the Association have not been effectively co-ordinated and harmonized so as to produce the best results as a whole. There is an absence of system in planning and guiding the work of the different Departments so that each should support and supplement the other, and in combination carry out some definite purpose the U. P. A. S. I. has in view. In existing conditions there is a waste of energy in some, overlapping of work in others, and sometimes even nullification of each others efforts, instead of there being harmonized co-operation towards a common objective. (d) Top-heavy administration. This is due to the inherent defects of the late re-organization scheme, in which attention was too largely concentrated on labour questions to the detriment of all other interests. Hence a Management at Head-quarters, based almost entirely on the Labour Department, and conducted with a prodigality that would ruin any business institution. It is felt that by proper co-ordination and co-operation in departmental work, simplification of office procedure, and a rigid adherence to essentials, the Head-quarters administration could be carried on with greater efficiency and on a smaller expenditure of the Association's funds.

Constructive criticism is always more difficult than fault finding; but the latter must necessarily precede the former before reconstruction has any foundation to build on. If, therefore, Members, instead of passively agreeing to everything put before them, were to candidly express their views as did the writers who have set the ball rolling, there would be fewer muddles and mishaps and more possible remedies. The following is my humble contribution in this direction, and it is trusted others will follow up with even better suggestions. Needless to add that it is the system and not the individual that is being dealt with:—

(1). That the clerical work of the U. P. A. S. I. is capable of greater simplification, and should be reduced to absolute business requirements. That the Secretary should have more time for general supervision, constructive planning, and personal communication with members. That, under prevailing conditions reduction rather than expansion of activities should be aimed at.

(2). That, if the management is put on a purely business footing at Head-quarters, the only European officials required will be a Labour Manager associated with a General Secretary: each with a competent Anglo-Indian Head Clerk and the necessary Indian staff. The former official

should be an expert in Labour matters ; and the latter, besides having an intimate knowledge of the Planting Industry, should be experienced in Secretarial procedure and business organisation.

(3). SALARIES. The General Secretary from Rs. 800 to 1,000, and the Labour Manager from Rs. 600 to 800. These were the figures submitted by me when answering a list of questions in the late Re-organisation Scheme ; and I believe, that given a practically conducted administration, suitable men can be secured on the above salaries.

(4) That the U. P. A. S. I. with all its component Departments should be located in one central Head-quarters. Heads of Departments to be responsible for their own particular work, while all the activities of the Association would be co-ordinated and guided by the General Secretary under the direction of the Executive Committee.

(5) The *Planters' Chronicle*. The editing of this paper takes up too much time of the office staff. It should be made over to some enterprising individual or publishing firm, with a reasonable subsidy. Planting information of general interest would be supplied free to the Editor, while confidential communications would be typed (not printed) at Head-quarters, and issued direct to Members and Committees by the General Secretary. A Roneo Duplicator would cheaply fulfil all requirements in this direction.

(6) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. There can be no doubt that only a planter can fully represent the planting community ; and it is devoutly hoped that someone will yet be found with sufficient public spirit to fill this very important post. Two other alternatives have been suggested, *viz*, to appoint either a Madras resident, or the Secretary as the Planting Member. The services of the former would perhaps be less costly and more efficient, but such an appointment would have the great defect, that a non-planter living in a non-planting area could never be in intimate touch with the real opinions, wishes and interests of the whole planting community, while he might unconsciously be influenced and even misled by designing individuals. As regards the Secretary's appointment, this would be an exceedingly costly arrangement if he and half the Association are to be dragged down to Madras for the purpose. It would mean adding another man to the office : a competent and highly paid under-study to carry on the Secretary's duties while he was attending to Council work for a third or more of every month. It would also mean two Associations instead of one, with the consequent increase in expenditure and enormous delays in correspondence and general administration. It is simply not business. The only result of splitting up the Association and dispersing authority will be a still greater deficit in the budget and ultimate bankruptcy. If, however, as a temporary measure, it becomes necessary to appoint the Secretary, surely it would be cheaper in the long run just to pay his out-of-pocket expenses while absent from Coimbatore? Still, the only satisfactory solution of the problem is to place an experienced and independent planter on the Council, even if, his services have to be remunerated, for no other alternative measure that can be suggested will adequately represent the Planting Industry and safeguard its many interests.

J. B. LESLIE-ROGERS.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

RECOGNISED AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U. P. A. S. I., INCORPORATED.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

Edwin Vincent, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 17th March, 1922.

128s./- per cwt. . Market Steady.

## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE, GENEVA 1921.

We give below the concluding portion of the Report made by Mr. A. U. Crowe, lately of Assam and who acted as one of the advisers to the Employers' Delegate.

### CONVENTIONS.

If the Indian Government ratify the first convention concerning workmen's compensation, it will simply mean the extension to agricultural workers of the benefit of any laws already existing in the case of industrial workers. This would be very difficult to do in the case of agricultural labour generally all over India, but Government might decide to legislate in the case of controlled labour, such as tea garden labour; in any case I do not expect that the industry would object to compensate for injury.

The second convention—Employment of children in agriculture—if ratified will seriously affect tea garden labour. As originally presented by the Commission the text read that children should not be employed except outside the hours of compulsory school attendance. This was the best we could do, and it safeguarded the industry in so far that there would be no interference with the children until such time as compulsory schooling is introduced; when compulsory schooling is introduced Government may be relied upon to see that the planter does not employ children during school hours. The wording of this text was not only accepted by the plenary Conference when first presented to them, but was accepted by an unanimous vote and yet the Drafting Committee took the liberty to leave out the word "compulsory," and the convention as finally passed now reads that no children shall be employed outside the hours "fixed for school attendance." As the convention applies to all children and not only to wage-earners, it would, if ratified, interfere with the family life of the ryot, which would cause trouble. But there again it is always possible that Government may introduce special legislation applying this ruling to controlled labour.

The third Convention.—The right of association and combination—is probably the only one that Government will ratify. It is inexpensive and not likely to raise any opposition; as far as I know there are at present no laws prohibiting association so that the ratification will not affect the industry either one way or the other.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

As regards recommendations, of which there are seven:—

(1) Measures for providing against unemployment: These are not likely to trouble an industry in which unemployment is unknown.

(2) Protection of women before and after child-birth: The Indian Government are not likely to adopt the recommendation, because to extend the benefit of any legislation to the whole of India would be very difficult, and in the case of the more controlled agricultural undertakings more is already being done by employers in the matter of leave and allowances than the recommendation contemplates.

(3) Night work of women does not, as far as I know, exist in the tea industry of India.

(4) Protection against sickness, invalidity and old age: If the Government act on this recommendation it will simply mean the extension of existing systems of insurance to agricultural workers. As far as I know there are at present no systems of insurance in industries in India.

(5) Night work of young persons and children in agriculture: This recommendation, if acted on by the Government would, in my opinion, cause more inconvenience to the industry than all the rest of the recommendations and conventions put together, as these regulations would interfere with the employment of boys in leaf-houses in the evening and early morning, as, in practice, it would be impossible to assure them ten hours' consecutive rest. In commission we endeavoured to get the words "if possible" inserted in the text so that it would read, "ten hours which would, if possible, be consecutive," but both the workers and the Governments were against this. The workers tried to get eleven consecutive



hours; they also tried to get the actual time stated, *viz.*, from 7 p. m. till 6 a. m.; had they managed to pass this it would, if adopted by the Government, have effectually stopped the employment of boys in leaf-houses. As it is, it will be possible to work two shifts and assure each shift 10 consecutive hours' rest.

(6) Technical agricultural education: I do not think that the question of technical education is likely to affect the tea industry for some years to come.

(7) Living-in conditions in agriculture: the terms of the recommendations under living-in conditions have been made sufficiently elastic to allow of each country framing measures suitable to the habits and customs of its workers, and to the climatic conditions of the countries concerned, as long as the measures correspond to the requirements of morality and hygiene. The condition in an industry which in these matters has, from its birth almost, been under the control of Government Health Officers can be considered to conform to those requirements.

Having dealt now with the agricultural questions that have been discussed and dealt with, I propose to give my views as to what the next agricultural items on the agenda of a future conference are likely to be, and I am of the opinion that the next question will be:—

- (a) Hours of work in agriculture.
- (b) Weekly rest-day in agriculture.

It is also possible that the question of compulsory elementary education will be dealt with; but compulsory education is now so universally the rule that the International Labour Board may be excused for leaving the question alone until more urgent matters are settled. There is also the possibility of the question of a minimum wage in agriculture, but the matter is so complicated, especially with the present state of international exchange, that the question will probably be left alone.

We should be ready to meet the two first questions mentioned, and my idea is that you should be in a position to state as regards (a) that hours of work in your industry do not exceed eight hours a day, or 48 hours a week, that usually the working day does not exceed seven hours, which allows for half an hour to come to, and half an hour to go back from, work. With the exception always of work in the factories, which will in all probability be under the regulations of the Factory Act by the time the next Conference meets, the working hours on a modern tea estate do not exceed eight hours including both "hazira and ticca" work, and the average is, I believe, below seven hours. There are always a few lazy people who manage to put in any number of hours over the most lenient tasks. And on some estates these people are kept out long hours, but I question if it ever pays the employers.

The next question is that of weekly rest; the general opinion is that a weekly day of rest is quite as necessary in agriculture as in industry, and it would be difficult to show good cause for an exception to be made in the case of a tea estate. Unfortunately many estates are under-laboured, most of these start under-laboured, and are always under-laboured with the result that they have to work their labour on Sundays during the heavy cropping season; as a result those gardens usually remain under-laboured. It is a comparatively simple matter to rest areas in tea, and no concern need work a larger area than they have labour to cope with.

I think that the Indian Government are most anxious to avoid legislation not from sympathy with the planting industry, but because it is difficult to legislate for a whole continent the size of India where probably 70% of the population depend directly or indirectly on agriculture so primitive, and so

dependent on seasonal conditions. To tell a ryot, who has been waiting for weeks for the monsoon to break, that he, his family and any labour he can employ shall not work more than eight hours, that the children shall not work during "fixed" school hours, that there shall be no Sunday work, would mean that the fields could not be planted in time, and there would be famine in the land; as a matter of fact, there would probably be something much akin to a revolution before the famine came along. As regards the more organised forms of agriculture such as the large planting industries, Government is probably quite prepared to legislate, but in view of the fact that the number of people employed forms only a small percentage to the total population employed in agriculture, they would probably prefer not to legislate. On the other hand the labour agitator, who knows that industry is a capitalised industry and almost purely British, will do his best to show that the conditions of plantation labour are unsatisfactory. I know that there is an opinion, often expressed in the tea districts, (I have for the matter of that often expressed it myself), that Government could not possibly legislate in favour of labour without giving the employer corresponding advantages; such of course would take the form of closer control over the labourer. This is a fallacy, born of the old days of penal labour acts. Governments all over the world are legislating in favour of labour; in favour of labour which is absolutely free, laying down hours of work, minimum rates of pay, compensation for injury, etc., without giving the employer any redress whatever beyond the ordinary civil courts. If Government are doing that in the case of labourers that are literate, that are organised, that are bred and born in the districts in which they labour, whose people for many generations have been employed in that same industry, how much more excusable is it for a Government to legislate for labour that is ignorant, unorganised and recruited from great distances to work in an employment in which they have no previous experiences. Taking this into consideration, I think that Employers' delegates and Government Delegates attending future Conferences should be in a position, as far as possible, to state that conditions in the tea industry are satisfactory:—

- (a) That the average hours of work are low, in comparison with agriculture in India generally, and in comparison with the hours in agriculture in other countries.
- (b) That a weekly day of rest is observed; that Sunday work is exceptional.
- (c) That wages, including grain allowances, bonus, house accommodations, free land for cultivation, etc., etc., though low from an European stand-point, compare favourably with the wages ruling in the East.

I would suggest that you obtain returns from the local Branches of your Association, giving the average hours of field work on the estates in their respective Districts, also returns showing the number of Sundays worked.

I am often asked whether these conferences are likely to be of any practical value, and whether they justify the money they cost, or not. I think they are of value, and do justify the money spent; the cost of a conference and the whole I. L. O., heavy though it may be, is small in comparison to the cost of a strike in any large industry; and though the results arrived at often appear disappointing, these conferences result in educating public opinion, they enable employers to meet the leaders of labour on neutral ground, and hear a dispassionate statement of their views; the International Labour Organisation collect a large amount of information regarding labour conditions, and enactments



dealing with labour, from all parts of the world, they take much care to verify the information they obtain and in their position, recognized as they are by the three groups, Governments, employers and workers they are in an exceptional position to obtain accurate information. Lastly it enables employers to meet the leaders of labour and get to know them, and it is rather an agreeable surprise to find that when one gets to know them personally they are, for the most part, very earnest people, well informed as regards the workers they represent, and quite prepared to listen to both sides of the question.

I think that they came to the conference better prepared than we employers; in the first place they are organized, and in the second place most of their delegates and advisers had attended previous Conferences, and understood the procedure whereas most of the employers' delegates were attending their first Conference, and were in no way organized. There is now a movement on foot to form an Employers' Association which is, I believe, obtaining very general support, which will embrace the employers' association of the world; this association proposes to collect information useful to employers, and, when necessary, act in consort.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

#### REPORT NO. 10 OF 1922. (12TH—18TH MARCH.)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left for the High Range on the morning of 18th. Mr. Anstead is expected back at head-quarters on or about 7th April. Letters will be forwarded to him as usual. His address in the High Range will be, care of, Post Master, Munnar.

2. PUBLICATIONS.—The following publications of interest to planters have been issued by the Agricultural Department, during the last year. With the exception of the last, they can all be obtained through the public booksellers. Mr. Rutherford's pamphlet is obtainable at my office free of charge.

1. Prices and Wages in India. 35th Issue. Department of Statistics. Price Rs. 2.
2. Estimates of the Area and Yield of the Principal Crops in India, 1919—20. Department of Statistics. Price Annas Eight.
3. Note on the Cultivation of Modon Paddy. Madras Agricultural Department. Leaflet No. 11.
4. Note on Sugarcane Cultivation on the West Coast. Madras Agricultural Department. Leaflet No. 12.
5. Cultivation and Preparation of Rubber in Burma. Burma Agricultural Department. Bulletin No. 7.
6. Onion Cultivation. Burma Cultivators' Leaflet No. 57.
7. Report on Tea Culture in Assam for 1920. Price Annas Eight.
8. The Preservation of Wood against Termites. Pusa Agricultural Research Institute. Bulletin No. 110. Price Annas Three.
9. Bird Friends and Foes of the Farmer. Madras Agricultural Department. Bulletin 81. Price Rs. 1-6-0.
10. The Preparation of Mysore Coffee for the English Market with special reference to Quality by E. W. Rutherford.

3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (5th—11th March).—Hot weather conditions prevail at all the Experiment Stations, so that little is going on to report upon.

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, a preliminary experiment with the preparation of artificial farm yard manure has been finished, and samples of the resulting produce are being analysed by the Government Agricultural Chemist. Composts are being made, and the work of removing old shade from a plot being collar pruned is in progress. At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a good shower of 1.04 inch was received at the beginning of the week, which has done a great deal of good. 847 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 7.34 acres. Manuring is being done according to programme. At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, the plants in the seed selection plot have been reduced to two in each pit and inter-cultivated. At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, a light shower of 0.13 inch fell on 7th.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### NILGIRI-WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT  
GUDALUR, ON MONDAY, 13TH MARCH, 1922, AT 11 A. M.

PRESENT:—Messrs. J. Aird (Chairman), R. Fowke, B. J. Blackett, G. A. Rutter, J. H. Wapshare, J. W. G. Bisset, P. A. Naylor, and F. W. F. Fletcher (Honorary Secretary). VISITOR:—Mr. C. F. Minchir.

REPORT OF DELEGATES TO GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING.—Messrs. Aird and Fowke gave the Meeting a very full and interesting review of the Proceedings of the General Committee Meeting, held at Coimbatore, on 22nd and 23rd February, 1922, and a hearty vote of thanks to them for their services was passed unanimously.

The deadlock in respect of the Budget, brought about by the failure of the proposal to levy the extra cess of 2 annas again next year to secure the necessary number of votes, was then discussed. Ultimately, the members decided to vote for this cess, although still quite unconvinced that, as stated by the Executive Committee, reduction of expenditure was impossible in any direction. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to request the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. to represent the N. W. P. A. at the General Committee Meeting to be held on 30th March, and to add in the letter of authority that the Association looked for increased efficiency all round if the expenditure was not curtailed.

REPORT OF LABOUR COMMISSION.—A long discussion on this took place, in course of which the Chairman said he regretted the Report did not give any information on two most important points. First, the expenditure had been raised to Rs. 2,40,000, but no details were afforded as to how this figure had been reached; and secondly, though the Commission had doubtless gone into the question in course of their tour, nothing was said as to whether present recruiting areas were tapped to the limit, or whether in any there was a surplusage which could be obtained by better recruiting methods. The Report was also silent on the point of fresh recruiting grounds. The general opinion seemed to be that a small "subsidy" from those who did not join the Labour Department might be equitable in view of the indirect benefit non-subscribers might obtain from the work of that Department; but that the scale suggested by the Commission was far too high. At the instance of the Honorary Secretary, further discussion on



the Report was deferred till the Annual Meeting, to be held some time in April, so that members might have more time to study the recommendations made in it.

**TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF DELEGATES.**—The bills submitted by Messrs. Aird and Fowke for attending the Meeting on 22nd February were sanctioned. The Chairman said he considered it was time that this matter was placed on a business footing, as it was not fair that delegates should be out of pocket—an opinion in which the Meeting thoroughly concurred. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Bisset, and seconded by Mr. Blackett, was passed unanimously:—

“That, in future the travelling expenses of delegates representing the Association at the various U. P. A. S. I. Meetings should be on the following scale:—

“For journeys by rail, double first class fare.

“For journeys by road, Re. 1 per mile plus tolls.

“Halting allowance, Rs. 10 per day in every case.”

**CORRESPONDENCE.**—Read letter No. 7740, dated 8th March, 1922, from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. with reference to Mappilla labour. The Meeting considered it would be far better if the terms on which Mappilla prisoners are to be employed were arranged with Mr. Knapp by the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. instead of by individual Estates, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to request the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. to obtain replies to the questions asked by the Association at the Meeting, held on 18th February.

Read letter from the President, District Board, No. R. C 55/1922, dated 23rd February, with reference to the segregation of smallpox patients. Recorded.

Read letter No. 7722, dated 7th March, 1922, from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. regarding the collection of U. P. A. S. I. subscriptions. Payment of the monthly contribution of Rs. 6 was sanctioned.

Read letter from Mr. J. S. Nicolls, dated 11th March, 1922, covering letter from Dr. J. F. Kendrick, dated 2nd March, 1922 with reference to his suggested visit in April, in connection with the anti-hookworm campaign. Recorded.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting ended.

(Signed) J. AIRD,

Chairman.

(Signed) F. W. F. FLETCHER,

Honorary Secretary.

## **SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

**PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOW, AREHALLI, ON 12-3-22.**

**PRESENT.**—Messrs. C. Lake, (President), H. F. Anderson, R. G. T. Anderson, Lt. Col. W. L. Crawford, D. S. O., Messrs. F. M. Hamilton, E. M. Nixon, W. F. Scholfield, W. R. Wright and Major A. L. Hill, O B.E., M C., (Honorary Secretary.)

**BY PROXY.**—Messrs. C. C. Couchman, and C. H. Godfrey.

**VISITORS.**—Messrs. J. H. Bennett and Maurice.

(i) Report of the Delegate to the U. P. A. S. I. General Committee Meeting, held at Coimbatore on 22-2-22:—

The President addressed the Meeting as follows :—“ Gentlemen, this Extraordinary Meeting has been called at the request of the Executive of the U. P. A. S. I. to discuss its budget with special reference to the extra As 2 Cess which was paid by all District Associations last year, and which has been included in the coming year's budget.

Owing to several Associations not having agreed to the extra cess, the matter has been referred back to us, and we have to decide whether we are prepared to pay this As. 2 for another year, without which, we are told, it is not possible for the U. P. A. S. I. to carry on.

You will all have seen in the *Chronicle* of last week what took place at the recent General Committee Meeting at Coimbatore, and, whether we agree to the recommendations of the Labour Commission or not, we cannot but see how essential it is in these troublous times for us to show a united front and give our whole-hearted support to our Parent Association.”

The Memorandum of March 1st by the Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I., on the financial position of the U. P. A. S. I. was read, and Col. Crawford having informed the Meeting of what happened at Coimbatore, the following resolution was put from the Chair and carried unanimously :—“ That this Association agrees to the collection of the extra annas 2 per acre cess for the financial year 1922-23.”

(ii). U. P. A. S. I. Budget for 1922-23 :—

After some discussion several items in which it was considered that reductions might be effected were noted for the guidance of the Delegate to the forthcoming U. P. A. S. I. General Committee Meeting.

The Meeting then terminated.

Paper on the Table : Letter No 7767 of S-3-22 from the Sec., U. P. A. S. I., *re.* applications for the appointment of Coffee Officer, Kenya Colony.

(Signed) C. LAKE,  
President

(Signed) A. L. HILL,  
Hon. Secretary.

## WEST COAST PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD IN THE COCHIN CLUB AT 10 30 A. M., ON MARCH 10TH, 1922.

PRESENT.—Mr. A. C. Morrell (Chairman), Messrs. Aspinwall & Co. (per Mr. G. H. Martin), Messrs E. H. Halliley, H. Walmsley, J. A. Richardson (Planting member), A. H. Mead, and P. Y. Champion (Honorary Secretary).

The Chairman before opening the meeting regretted to have to announce the death of Mr. C. W. Hadwen, of Mooply Valley Estate at the Ernakulam Hospital, and proposed that the Association convey its sympathy to his relatives. Passed in silence, all members standing.

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of last meeting confirmed.

Honorary Secretary's Report.—Only three meetings for the year all held in Cochin, as Cochin for the time being must be considered the most central and convenient for members to attend.

Company members the same as last year. Private members are now 7. Only 7 Estates have paid their subscriptions in full for the year 1921-22.

Expenditure.—Exclusive of delegate's Rs. 445-5-11.  
Delegate's expenses Rs. 200-0-0



Totals carried forward as per balance sheet Rs. 1,815-8-8 against Rs. 2,080-2-6 for 1920-21. This is accounted for by all stationery being lost in the Moplah riots, and that Rs. 346-1-1 is still due to this Association from Estate members.

The meeting decided to pass the accounts.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for his work during the year was passed.

Election of Office-Bearers for 1922-23 — Proposed by Mr. Halliley and seconded by Mr. Walmsley that Mr. Morrell be again elected Chairman.

Proposed that Mr. Champion be again elected Honorary Secretary. The following Office-Bearers were then elected :—

Chairman.	... Mr. A. C. Morrell.
Honorary Secretary.	... Mr. P. Y. Champion.
General Committee	... Messrs. A. C. Morrell and C. E. M. Browne.
Committee.	... Messrs. R. Lescher, E. H. Halliley and C. E. M. Browne.

Mr. Morrell thanked the meeting for again electing him Chairman.

U. P. A. S. I. Budget 1922-23.—Mr. Morrell spoke of the urgent necessity of passing the extra 2 annas cess for the coming year.

Mr. Halliley then said :—

“ Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen :—I am going to ask you to vote against the raising of this 2 anna cess.”

Seconded by Mr. Walmsley.

The amendment was carried after being put to the meeting, and the Delegate to the U. P. A. S. I. instructed accordingly.

Mr. Richardson said that he was very pleased to hear this Association say definitely that the original contract with the U. P. A. S. I. would not be repudiated.

Proposed that the Delegate be instructed to obtain full particulars of an article published in the “ Madras Mail ” re. the Mycologist Station being subsidized by the Travancore Government.

Resignation of Companies.—Honorary Secretary instructed to write to the Agents of these companies.

Incorporation.—Honorary Secretary instructed to write all Managers of Estates on above.

Reparations.—This matter to be left in the hands of the U. P. A. S. I.

Planters' Benevolent Fund.—Subscriptions collected for the year ending March 1922 amount to Rs. 560.

Subscriptions (Collection).—Proposed that the W. C. P. A. clerk be paid Rs. 10 per mensem. Carried.

Re. collecting subscriptions, etc. by Head office, U. P. A. S. I. proposed this was left to the Honorary Secretary to decide. Carried.

Inter-District Sports.—Hoped that this Association would be represented this year.

Delegate's Expenses.—Proposed that Rs. 300 be paid to Bangalore Delegate. Carried. Also that Rs. 100 be paid for Committee Meetings. Carried.

Correspondence on the table:—

Moplah Labour	1820 Settlers Association	'Brown Bast'
Exchange Banks	Estate Income-Tax	Tea in India, 1920.
Road Board	Inter-District Labour Rules	

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and the Cochin Club, the meeting terminated.

### COORG PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE  
NORTH COORG CLUB, MERCARA, ON MONDAY,  
MARCH 6TH, 1922.

PRESENT.—Messrs. W. M. Ball, C. G. Maclean, W. A. F. Bracken, W. G. Parsons, A. J. Wright, G. Pearce, P. G. Tipping, H. M. Mann, S. P. Raymond, H. Sprott, L. Richardson, W. E. Dickenson, J. C. P. Maurice, S. H. Battam, F. Macrae, T. H. Hext, A. N. Grove, and W. Egerton (Hon. Secretary). J. L. Anderson (Visitor).

1. The Minutes of the last Quarterly General Meeting were confirmed.
2. Visit of H. R. H. The Prince of Wales.—Resolved "that this Association places on record the honour done to it by having been represented on the deputation of welcome to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales on his arrival at Bangalore on the 18th January, 1922."
3. The Budget.—Mr. Macrae spoke at some length on the proceedings of the General Committee Meeting, held at Coimbatore on February 22nd which he attended as the Coorg Delegate.

He stated that the meeting had been a very important one, that he had voted for the 2 annas extra cess being paid, which however, owing to the necessary 75% of votes not being in favour of the resolution it was not passed, but would be referred back to District Associations.



The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Macrae, and seconded by Mr. Egerton :—

"That this Association agrees to the extra levy of 2 annas per acre asked for by the Executive Committee of the U. P. A. S. I. in the Budget for 1922-23". This was carried.

4. Coast Cart rates were discussed, and it was the feeling of the meeting that the present rates were far too high. It was pointed out that all Estates, even in the same District were not paying the same cart rates, at which great surprise was shown.

Proposed by Mr. Tipping and seconded by Mr. Wright :—"That this Association requests that our coffee curing Agents should be asked to consult this Association early in the season regarding the fixing of cart rates, as it is considered that the rates agreed to this season were excessive." Carried.

5. Weekly Bonus to Coolies.—Proposed by Mr. Parsons, and seconded by Mr. A. J. Wright :—"That the 3 annas bonus for 5 days work be discontinued by members of this Association as from April 1st, 1922." This was carried.

6. Hookworm Disease.—Attention was drawn to Members to the Anti-Hookworm Campaign. Mr. Tipping gave some very interesting facts and figures with reference to this disease, and impressed upon the Meeting the importance of taking steps to deal with it.

7. Collection of Subscriptions by the Head Office, Coimbatore.—This did not meet with the approval of the Meeting.

8. Sale of the Scientific Fund Microscope.—This, together with all the rest of the articles belonging to the Fund, were ordered to be sold, if possible.

9. Incorporation papers.—As still several signatures were required, Members were asked to sign after the Meeting.

10. S. I. P. Benevolent Fund.—Messrs. Tipping and Macrae both spoke strongly on this subject, urging members to join the Fund. It was resolved that the C. P. A. subscribes Rs. 25 per year.

11. Moplah Labour.—This was discussed, but it was thought best that any Member wishing for this should apply personally.

12. Inter-District Tennis Tournament.—Messrs Sprott and Maurice were appointed to consider the feasibility of the proposition.

13. The following correspondence was read :—

Coorg Government notices.

Limestone

Roads and Bridges

List of Maistries to be rendered to Labour Agents.

Subscriptions

Refusal to belong to U. P. A. S. I.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the Meeting closed.

(Signed) W. M. BALL,

Chairman.

(Signed) W. EGERTON,

Honorary Secretary.

## ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE  
ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE ANAMALLAI  
CLUB, AT 11 A. M., MARCH 6TH, 1922.

**PRESENT.**—Messrs. J. Hatton-Robinson, (Chairman), A. C. Cotton, E. W. Simcock, J. E. Carless, E. N. House and D. Cooper (Honorary Secretary).

The Committee discussed the items of the Agenda of the day for the General Meeting.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ANAMALLAI  
PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE ANAMALLAI CLUB,  
AT 2-30 P. M., MARCH 6TH, 1922.

**PRESENT.**—Messrs. J. Hatton-Robinson, (Chairman), A. C. Cotton, A. V. Danagher, R. J. Burnett, J. H. Ireland Jones, I. Stewart, W. V. Reilly, E. Johnson, A. W. F. Mills, J. C. Robertson, E. Hardy, J. E. Carless, E. N. House, E. W. Simcock, S. Sladden, F. Simmons, E. H. Francis and D. Cooper (Honorary Secretary.)

**MINUTES.**—The Chairman, in opening the Meeting, apologised for the names of Messrs Carless, Jones and Lloyd having been omitted from the Minutes of the Meeting on 24-1-22.

With the above alteration the minutes of this meeting were taken as read, and passed.

The minutes of the meeting held on 31-1-22 were taken as read, and passed.

**U. P. A. S. I. DELEGATE'S REPORT.**—Mr. Simcock read the report, and considerable discussion took place on the U. P. A. S. I. Budget and Head Office expenditure.

The Chairman proposed :—" That the extra 2 annas cess to the U. P. A. S. I. for the year 1922-1923 be accepted by this Association." Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Simcock and seconded by Mr. Hardy :—

That either the Secretary or Assistant Secretary should devote his whole time to the work of the Labour Department, and his salary be charged against this Department. Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Simmons and seconded by Mr. Robertson :—

That the Superintendent of the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department, Coimbatore Division should devote the whole of his time to Labour matters, and that the *Planters' Chronicle*, etc., be edited by the Secretary. Carried (*nem con.*)



COCHIN RAILWAY.—Read letter from Executive Engineer, Valparai-Cochin survey. Honorary Secretary was instructed to reply to same.

HARDYPET POST OFFICE. LATE ARRIVAL OF TAPPAL.

Proposed by Mr. Stewart and seconded by Mr. Reilly :—

That our Honorary Secretary be requested to kindly approach the authorities and ask them to arrange that the outward mail runners should leave Hardypet P. O. at 4 p. m., and stay overnight at Valparai and bring the inward mail bags down to Hardypet as soon as possible. Carried unanimously.

BOYANS ADVANCES.—Proposed by Mr. Stewart and seconded by Mr. Reilly :—

That all members of this Association agree not to give out any advances whatever to boyans for a trial period of 6 months from 1st April, 1922, and if, after this period, it has been found that we can still get boyans to do the necessary works without advances, then this resolution to be made a standing rule and no boyan be advanced again on these hills.

Lost ; votes for 663 against 826.

DISTRICT TRANSPORT.—Proposed by Mr. Cotton and seconded by Mr. Simcock :—

That this Association sanction a maximum expenditure of Rs. 1,000 for an expert report on the possibilities of motor transport on the Anamallai Ghat. Carried unanimously.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and also to the Delegates to U. P. A. S. I. Meeting at Coimbatore, the Meeting terminated.

(Signed) J. HATTON-ROBINSON,  
Chairman,

( " ) DUDLEY COOPER,  
Honorary Secretary.

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER.

For the month of February 1922.

From	To—Other Ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe Other than U. K.	America.
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Cochin	...	...	2,948	60	...
Alleppey	...	207	...	...	700
Tulicorin	...	666	87	...	...
Totals: This month...	...	873	3,035	60	700
For January 1922...	1,543	1,355	2,731	331	1,965
Total for January and February...	1,543	2,228	5,766	391	2,665
Grand Total Exports ...					12,593 cwts.









## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

Kulhutti Estate,  
Santaveri,  
via Birur, 15-3-22.

Dear Sir,—There have been several letters in the Chronicle about Kent's Arabica, and I feel that I ought also to add my experience.

In some things some people are fortunate, others unfortunate; when I purchased a seer of this seed in 1918 I was one of the unfortunate, only having got 40 true to type plants out of 800 from the seer; the remaining 760 being "sports" of a very undesirable sort, more like the old Chick, even as far as getting Leaf disease. These showed signs of this from the very beginning, and in January 1920, when all the plants were allowed to crop, they were absolutely yellow with disease, while the 40 good ones were perfectly free and ripened every berry, thus showing that, when you got the real thing, it was really good. Since then I have purchased the seed by the bushel, and am glad to say with better luck—the percentage of good plants being quite 60 to 70, probably seed from a later generation.

My 40 plants gave me a little seed in 1920-21, the blossom having been forced out long before the other coffee, and I found the percentage of good plants quite 80. The blossom was again forced in March, 1921, and I have now gathered half a bushel of seed from the 40 plants, besides sending about two measures of clean coffee to London for a report and valuation. When I receive this, I shall be glad to publish it.

I have also tried Jackson's hybrids here, but they are in no way better than the old Coorg, apparently this place does not suit them. Kent's Arabica put out here as supplies can easily be picked out amongst other coffee.

Yours faithfully,  
SAM J. WILSON.

Kesinvurthy Estate,  
Santaveri, Birur.

Sir,—I have read, with interest, the accounts by correspondents of their experience with Kent's and Jackson's hybrids. I know that Jackson's coffee sample was reported on very favourably in London, but I never knew before that there was a report and valuation on Mr. Kent's seed, and would suggest that he would be good enough to publish the report, etc., in the *Planters' Chronicle*, as after all the question of value varies and concerns most of us.

I have had some experience of hybrids and their disease resisting properties, and as a rule, I am afraid their properties do not last many years, but still it is a great gain to get a plant that grows vigorously when young, and I can bear out all that has been said of Kent's when young, but I must say that I was disappointed at the appearance of some 4 year old raised from his seed. I have heard glowing accounts of the Arabidicool clearing, referred to in Mr. Kirwan's letter to the *P. C.*, but unfortunately have not seen it for 2 years, but hope to soon. The only plants I have here, were planted as vacancies last monsoon, and they stand out as I have not seen plants stand out for years, and not many duds, but the percentage of good plants, in one case that I have seen, was infinitesimal. As regards cropping, and if Mr. Kent will excuse me, it is all very well to say that the cropping power is double that of the Coorg, but can any one prove that by figures or give us the produce of one acre or even one tree (Not original)??

It is the same with Robusta. I have an interest in an estate that has sheets of Robusta growing on land that no other variety of coffee would grow on—a rare and refreshing sight—but the crop results are poor, although, I think, one field rising 10 years old.

I admire Mr. Kent's enthusiasm, but think his statements are somewhat paradoxical when, although he admits the obscurity of the origin of his original trees, he repudiates the suggestion that Kent's Arabica is a "hybrid," and what pray is the difference between a cross and a hybrid? In my humble opinion there are hundreds (I should like to say thousands) of hybrids or crosses in the Coffee world.

We all know about Siberian-Arabica hybrids, and now come Robusta hybrids. I have some rising two years from my own Robusta seed (big cherries), and although not of one type look splendid with no leaf disease, but I am not sanguine about them, as the next generation will probably have some disability, viz. non-cropping or poor valuation, etc., but still it is interesting.

When I said not of one type, I should have said that, although the seed was picked off Robustas, there are only two or three that are distinctly of a Robusta type. The remainder is Arabica type, some Coorg, others Chick in habit.

One of the most remarkable things I have seen is a Robusta tree, or trees of the old Coorg drooping habit (Nalkanaad). Query!—if this seed came from Java, where did the Coorg habit come from? I however conclude it must be a slight cross with the Coorg, but otherwise it certainly does not look it.

Yours faithfully,

G. R. OLIVER.

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OOTACAMUND.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 24th March, 1922.

128s/-per cwt. Market Firm.

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## OURSELVES,

With this issue of the Chronicle the Managing Editorship passes into the hands of Maj. C. H. Brock, the Assistant Secretary,

U. P. A. S. I., and we feel it incumbent upon us to say a few words of farewell to our readers who for nearly three years have borne with us patiently and to whom we would like, before laying down the pen, to tender our very heartfelt thanks for their forbearance and real help during that period.

Incidentally, with this issue, another change is made and the Chronicle is now printed at Coimbatore instead of at Bangalore. We would take this opportunity of expressing our grateful thanks to Mr. T. M. Babington, who has printed and published for us for so many years. Always courteous and obliging he has rendered invaluable help but with the continuance of the Head Office at Coimbatore it has become imperative that the Chronicle should be printed here. There will be a considerable saving in time, although Mr. Babington very kindly did our proof reading for us, and we shall be enabled in future to go to press a day later.

The past three years have witnessed a considerable change in U. P. A. S. I. affairs. The events leading up to the reorganisation in 1919 are now ancient history and since that date we have had the terribly depressing effect of the Tea and Rubber crises making their mark on the parent Association. The future is none too bright and our successor has before him a period which will undoubtedly furnish him with matter for editorial comment equally as interesting and important as that which has formed the basis of our remarks in the immediate past. This is not the moment to go into these matters, perhaps; our object is merely to take a brief farewell which we do in the hope that the U. P. A. S. I. and its official organ will weather the storm which besets them at the moment and that they will both emerge the stronger and the better for their experiences. *Vale.*

### RETAIL RUBBER PRICES.

MR. L. F. W. DAVIDSON (*Mooply Valley Rubber*).

What strikes me with regard to retail prices of commodities in this country, and rubber goods in particular, is that there does not seem to have been any perceptible reduction in price, notwithstanding the fact that the price of rubber is now about one-tenth of what it was some years ago. To give you an instance of what I mean, I bought two tyres and two tubes for a Nash car recently and they cost £38. Now, taking the amount of rubber as 24 lbs. at the present price it would only amount to about £1, and where the balance of the £38 went to is what I, as a rubber producer, would like to know. I am informed that a reduction of £8 to £10 has taken place this month, but it appears to me there is plenty of room for still further reduction.



**THE PRUNING AND HANDLING OF COFFEE.**

BY "PLANTER."

In order that pruning should be of the greatest benefit to coffee, it should be commenced as soon as practicable after the harvesting of the crop, and completed as early as possible before the blossom showers are due, because growth is quiescent at this period, and the duration of "wintering" is shortlived with Coffee, especially if crop has been late. Unfortunately, owing to lack of labour, in the majority of cases it is not possible to complete the pruning in one year, and too often the work, combined with thinning out of new wood, technically known as "handling", has to be carried out during the monsoon to get it finished in two seasons. Done at this time, it is more with the object of preventing the trees becoming a hopeless tangle and to make room for the growth of new wood; whereas if it were carried out at the proper time, it would go to strengthen the crop bearing wood and be effectual in adding to the crop. The circumstances seem inconceivable under which handling and pruning coffee can be dispensed with. The only case in which it is claimed to have been successfully dispensed with is in Coffee grown on the Leeming system, as described in the *Indian Scientific Agriculturist* for November 1921. The system of pruning carried out in Coffee plantations in India is practically the same as that for which the rules are laid down in Laborie's work on coffee planting—published, I think, early in the 19th century, with notifications to suit the different conditions obtaining in the several Districts.

The first operation consists of topping the plants when they have attained the required height. The method of doing this sometimes followed is to only remove the apex when there is the risk of the stem splitting with the weight of the crop on the first pair of primaries. The most approved method therefore, as it obviates this risk, is to remove one primary in addition to the apex. The effect of topping it is to cause the plant to throw up suckers, which are efforts on its part to grow to its natural height. The constant removal of these causes the tree to throw out a profusion of lateral growth, and the necessity for handling, or thinning out superfluous growth, arises, to prevent it becoming an impenetrable thicket, and to induce it to produce regular average crops.

The formation of the coffee tree renders it eminently adaptable for handling and pruning. In the words of Labourie though it is "garnished" all round with horizontal primary branches, no two of them are in direct line. The secondaries grow in pairs at the nodes of the primaries, one on each side of the parent branches, and the same formation characterises the growth of the tertiaries on the secondaries. In carrying out handling the first thing attended to is to remove all suckers from the main stem, and all secondaries within six

inches of the stem. The next operation according to rule is to remove every alternate secondary on each side of the primaries, the idea being that the amputated secondaries would be replaced by fresh growth, when the new secondaries would be left to bear the succeeding crop, while those which had borne the previous season's crop would be in turn removed. But secondaries are not renewed with such unfailing regularity, and they often enough fail to grow at the node after a time, and dependence has then to be placed on tertiaries which are at first suppressed. It sometimes happens with some trees that instead of growing in the strictly natural fashion above described, only a single or a pair of secondaries will appear on the primaries instead of the full complement, while these secondaries will have a full complement of pairs of tertiaries at the nodes along their whole length. From this it is evident that it is difficult to lay down hard and fast rules with regard to the pruning of Coffee.

In the early days, where a sufficiency of labour was available to permit of it, handling used to be done two or three times during a season; all shoots which had grown after the selection of wood made on the first occasion being removed in the subsequent rounds. As the trees grew older and more subject to leaf disease, the usual procedure was to carry out centring (the removal of suckers and secondaries within half a foot of the stems) in May and June, a *pucka* handling in September and October and pruning after crop. It was generally held that centring gave admission to sufficient light and air to help the trees to retain their lower primaries and maintain their fruitfulness, but except where it was associated with wide planting it has failed to do so, and a large percentage of "umbrella" trees is noticeable in nearly all cases where the unfortunate practice of close planting has been the rule, especially where pruning has been neglected. It has been demonstrated in Java that the dying off of the lower branches of Robusta coffee is due to lack of light caused by close planting and dense shade. Close planting arose there because the plants closed up in two years, shade the soil and, while the moisture of the soil so necessary to coffee is thus preserved, the weeding expenses are lessened. Against these advantages there are the serious disadvantages that in closely planted estates a year with a heavy crop is always followed by one with a poor crop.

"The shade affects the tree, it is covered with leaves, but no fruit bearing wood is to be seen; all the fruit bearing wood remains green and sappy (succulent) with the result that there is little or no crop." Close planting in districts badly affected by borer in this country was in some cases adopted as a protective measure against the pest, the conditions close planting gives rise to being antagonistic to the increase of the insect. It kept the soil moist and cool and made it difficult for the insects' eggs to hatch successfully. Sir, George Watt, when on tour through the coffee districts of Southern India, on noting the good effects of light penetrating all parts of



coffee trees, is credited with recommending that in pruning old trees they should be made to assume a pyramidal shape, i. e., the top-most primaries should be cut back shortest, and each succeeding set of primaries somewhat longer than the superior set. Even supposing that old trees retained all their original primaries this pyramidal shape imposed on the trees would not be maintained long, as the secondaries which the upper primaries would throw out, getting, as they would, the largest share of light would outstrip in growth those lower down and overlap them.

Most planters are agreed that the heavy pruning of neglected coffee is to be deprecated. The process of restoring the trees to order should be extended over two or three seasons. In this way serious loss of crop is avoided and the trees saved a severe shock, from which some would perhaps not recover. The pruning now-a-days consists of cutting out non-bearing wood, and the plan favoured is to leave a large frame-work on the trees for production of new wood for the succeeding season, and not reduce those that have overborne to "parrot poles". Large thick secondaries are left, even if dry at the tips. These branches contain material stored up in their tissues which is capable of growing new shoots. This is lost to the trees if the branches are cut off. (*Indian Scientific Agriculturist.*)

### NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE  
OOTACAMUND, ON WEDNESDAY THE 22ND OF MARCH, 1922  
AT 11-30 A. M.

PRESENT.— Messrs. A. K. Weld-Downing, (chairman). Major J. B. Leslie Rogers, Capt. E. G. Windle, J. Pringle Waldeck, R. N. C. Grove, E. Sydenham Clarke, W. A. Cherry, Percy Reed, L. L. Porter, L. F. Lake, D. Elkington, J. Beaver Vernede, A. S. Dandison, and F. H. Farmer. (Honorary Secretary).

PREVIOUS MEETING.— The Honorary Secretary drew the attention of Members to the error which occurred in the report of the last Meeting held on the 2nd of February 1922.

ATTIKAN & HONNAMATTI ESTATES.— This should read "The Honorary Secretary of the Nilgiri Planters' Association wrote to the Honorary Secretary of the South Mysore Planters' Association on the 12th of December 1921."

The reply to this letter, dated 22—12—21 was never received but a copy has been sent by the Honorary Secretary of the South Mysore Planters' Association.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL MEETING.— The Delegates report was read.

Mr. Sydenham Clarke asked whether the Labour Commission Report would be brought into effect before the end of the five years agreement. Mr. Dandison replied that he could not say but that the Labour Commission Report will be discussed in full at the Annual Meeting at Bangalore.

A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Richardson and to the Members of the Labour Inquiry Commission for their-unselfish efforts and splendid work on our behalf.

The Delegates were heartily thanked for having satisfactorily represented the Association.

The Honorary Secretary was directed to write to the Annamalai Planters' Association asking them for particulars of their Badaga Labour Connections and to request them to abstain from recruiting in the Nilgiris until permission is given.

TWO ANNAS CESS 1922-23. A long discussion ensued as to the necessity for the extra cess. A letter from the Chairman of the United Planters' Association of Southern India was read. Various letters were then read from absent Members who were unable to attend. On being put to the vote, it was decided in favour of the 2 as. cess by thirteen to one.

Letters regretting inability to attend were received from:-  
Sir. Robert Stanes, Capt St. John Ives. Messrs. N. J. Stanes, O. W. Marden, and Norman Grey.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Collector for the use of the room, the Meeting terminated.

(Signed) A. K. WELD DOWNING,  
Chairman.

( „ ) F. H. FARMER,

Hon. Secretary.

## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

Coimbatore.  
22nd March 1922.

SECRETARY'S REPORT NO. 44.

1 THE COONOR EXPERIMENTAL PLOT—At the annual



meeting in 1919 the question of abandoning this plot was raised, but it was at the time, decided to wait the return of Mr. Anstead from furlough, and to leave the decision to him. Mr. Anstead recommended that the plot should be abandoned and the land returned to the Forest Department for the following reasons. The site was never very suitable, and there was always a difficulty about felling trees and establishing suitable shade in so small an area. Since the establishment of the Plot, the success that has been met with in bringing to maturity Jackson's Hybrid and Kent's Arabica has made the need for trying to raise another strain less pressing. The work could only be done satisfactorily by a Plant Breeder with time to devote to it. Hence the Government of Madras Development Department, in G. O. No. Mis. 356, dated 15th March 1922, have directed the discontinuance of the experiments on Coffee hybridization at Benhope, and the reversion of the land to the Forest Department.

2. RAILWAYS—In replying to a question in Council asking if anything has been done to provide Railway, accomodation between Tellicherry and Coorg, Mysore and Manantoddy, the Government of Madras replied that the Reconnaissance Survey of a line of Railway from Shoranur to Manantoddy, with a branch to Tellicherry had been completed; but that there was no near prospect of Railway communications with Tellicherry reaching the stage of actual construction.

3. COFFEE PASSES—A communication has been received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Malapuram, that his system of Coffee Passes, legalised by the Act for the prevention of coffee thefts appears to have been dropped, and he requests that it be adhered to, otherwise the prevention of thefts is very difficult. The attention of the District Associations concerned has been drawn to this.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.

### U. P. A. S. I.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION  
OF SOUTHERN INDIA HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE  
ASSOCIATION ON THURSDAY, THE 30 TH DAY OF MARCH 1922  
AT 2 P. M.

PRESENT:—

Mr. H. L. Pinches  
„ J. A. Richardson M. L. C.

Chairman  
Planting Member

„ H. Hatton Robinson	}	Members
„ A. C. Morrell		
Lt. Col. W. L. Crawford D. S. O.		
Mr. H. Waddington		Secretary
Major C. H. Brock		Asst. Secretary

The following Associations:—

Represented by:—

Annamallais	Mr. J. Hatton Robinson
Bababudin	Mr. J. H. Bennet
Central Travancore	Mr J. A. Richardson M. L. C.
Coorg	<i>Nil</i>
Kanan Devan	Major C. H. Brock
Mundakayam	Mr. E. Vincent
Nilgiris	Mr. I. Green I. C. S
Nilgiri-Wynaad	Mr. H. Waddington
North Mysore	Major C. H. Brock
South Mysore	Lt. Col. W. L. Crawford
Shevaroy	Mr. W. J. Campbell
South Travancore	Mr. H. L. Pinches
West Coast	Mr. A. C. Morrell
Wynaad	Mr. H. Waddington

Read Notice calling the Meeting.

Proceedings of the last Meeting of the General Committee held on the 22nd and 23rd of February 1922 were taken as read and confirmed after previous publication in the "Planters Chronicle."

The Chairman explained the necessity of calling this Meeting, having already expressed his intention to do so at the last Meeting of the General Committee. He asked the Meeting to pass the following resolution:—

"That the collection of the extra two annas cess per acre for the financial year 1922-23 be sanctioned under Article XIII (b) of the U. P. A. S. I. Articles of Association; and that this cess be collected together with the U. P. A. S. I. subscriptions for the second quarter due on the 1st of July 1922."



## SUBSCRIPTIONS—EXTRA 2 ANNAS CESS.

The Resolution was put to the Meeting and a poll taken. 1312 Votes were recorded in favour of the 2 annas cess and 333 votes against. As the votes in favour of the cess amounted to more than 3/4ths of the members present and voting, the Chairman declared the resolution carried.

All Associations affiliated to the U. P. A. S. I. with the exception of Coorg (who, though in favour of the 2 annas cess nominated no representative to vote for them) were represented.

When recording his vote on behalf of Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association, Mr. Waddington pointed out that that Association was still quite unconvinced that, as stated by the Executive Committee, the reduction of expenditure was impossible in any direction, and said that the Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association looks for increased efficiency all round if the expenditure, as set out in the Budget for 1922-23, is not curtailed.

The Chairman, after thanking the representatives present or attending the Meeting and representing the various Associations, declared the Meeting closed.

(Signed) H. L. PINCHES,  
Chairman.

(Signed) H. WADDINGTON,  
Secretary.

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CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT  
THE HOSPITAL PEERMADE ON SATURDAY THE 11TH MARCH AT  
10 - 30 A. M.

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PRESENT:—Mr. E. C. Sylvester (Chairman) Messrs. J. F. Fraser,  
G. P. Farley, G. S. Napier-Ford, R. E. Haslam, W. A. J. Mil-  
ner, C. S. N. Ricketts, J. S. Wilkie, J. M. Wilkie, J. Wedderspoon  
R. F. Vinen and A. R. St. George (Hon. Secy.)

1. INCORPORATION. The Memorandum and Articles of Association were duly signed by the promoters, and the Consent to act as Directors, by the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Members of the Committee.

2. The Delegates Report of the General Committee Meeting of UPASI held at Coimbatore on the 22 & 23rd February was read, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. E. C. Sylvester for attending, and his expenses voted.

3. The extra two anna cess to UPASI was voted, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary UPASI authorising him to appoint a person to act for this Association at the General Committee Meeting to be held on the 30th March and to vote in favour of the extra two anna cess.

4. Plucking rates were fully discussed, and it was decided to hold a Committee Meeting including Mr. J. S. Wilkie on Saturday April the 29th at Munja Mullay Bangalow, when the matter would again be brought up.

5. Inter District Tennis. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to enter the C. T. P. A. and a games committee was appointed consisting of Messrs Farley, Haslam, J. S. Wilkie and J. F. Fraser (Hon. Sec.)

6. Read letter from the Secretary UPASI re. the S. I. P. B. F. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to place this matter on the Agenda for the Annual Meeting.

Before closing the Meeting Capt. R. E. Haslam. O. C. Peermade Patrol, S. P. M. R. addressed those present in connection with a proposed camp to be held at the beginning of April.

The Meeting then terminated.

E. C. SYLVESTER.

*Chairman.*

A. R. St. GEORGE,

*Honorary Secretary.*

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**Mr. C. E. ABBOTT**

This well-known Wynaad Planter passed through Coimbatore yesterday on his way home to England. Mr. Abbott's connection with the Planting Community is a long and honourable one, for he has served them for a period of nearly 40 years. During this time he has held the post of Chairman and Planting Member, the former for no less than three years, thus sharing a distinction otherwise gained only by Mr. J. S. Nicolls, Mr. Geo. Romilly and Mr. W. H. Sprott. In addition to this, Mr. Abbott was three times Vice-Chairman of the Association.

To the present generation he will probably be remembered mainly on account of his attitude towards the administration of the Indian Tea Cess Committee's funds. He succeeded Mr. H. P. Hodgson as Planting Member in 1908 at a time when the Tea Cess and Preferential Duties on Tea had been occupying the minds of Planters for a matter of 5 years. He had come very rapidly to the front as in that year he could only boast of three previous attendances at Annual Meetings, and one opinion at least places his elevation to the Chairmanship as marking a new era in planting politics. It was in 1908 that the Scientific Officers Scheme, which culminated in the appointment of Mr. Anstead, was first laid down on definite lines, and in addition to this the year was a remarkable one, for a resolution introduced by Mr. Waddington, which aimed at combating the efflux of labour from South India to Ceylon, the Straits, etc. That resolution was undoubtedly the fore-runner of the Labour Department, which actually came into being 5 years later, and with which Mr. Abbott was very closely connected.

Mr. Abbott exercised in fact considerable sway in Upasi matters. As a planter and as a man of affairs he made an ideal Chairman with a particularly intelligent foresight of the future needs of the community. These qualifications brought him back to the Chair in 1911 for two years, and although since that date the only Office he has held has been that of Vice-Chairman from 1916 to 1918, his presence at Annual Meetings has always seemed to be a *sine qua non*, and successive Chairmen have paid tributes to his help and advice on the many important subjects which afterwards came up.

He leaves India with the very best wishes of the whole Planting Community for a happy retirement after so many years of service in a country where he will be remembered with affection and esteem for many years to come.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

[*The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.*]

**U. P. A. S. I. HEAD OFFICE EXPENDITURE.**

Sir,— It is to be regretted that our letter published in the *Planters' Chronicle* dated the 11th February has not elicited much

either in support of, or against, our contentions. Beyond a querulous letter from a former Chairman of the Upasi, and a query as to the possibility of members seceding from District Associations, invective would seem to be the chief merit of your correspondents.

We are now, however, in possession of the record of the debate on the Budget at the General Committee Meeting held on the 22nd February, and we have also been favoured with a copy of the Report of the Labour Commission, so that we are in a position to amplify our statement of our views, as well as offer some criticisms on the report of the Commission.

Mr. Nicoll's letter in the Planters' Chronicle of the 18th February shows that this Ex-Chairman apparently thinks that the proper time to criticise a budget is after it has been passed. His letter may be dismissed as pointless and vague.

The reply of the Secretary to Mr. Ralph Morris's letter reads as an effort at bluff. It was stated at the last Annual General Meeting, vide Book of Proceedings pages 38 and 39 that 4000 acres had resigned from a District Association and had refused to pay the Upasi cess. This, it should be noted, was before the Moplah rebellion, and not a result of it. We would draw your readers' attention to the Budget before it was amended, in which provision had been made to decrease revenue by leaving out the subscriptions of the Estates which had resigned. That the resignations may or may not have been accepted is immaterial. May we ask if the Upasi has taken any steps, or has the power to take any, to prevent the members from resigning from an Association not yet incorporated? If the Secretary's statement is to be taken at its face value he will doubtless shew your readers how the Upasi prevented the resignations, and also that the resignations have been withdrawn.

We will now consider the debate on the budget, but before doing so, should like to express our deep regret that despite the facts placed before them in our letter, and ignoring the growth of antagonistic feeling amongst members of Associations to the heavy expenditure policy of the Committee, the Ex-Committee has been able to reduce the budgetted expenditure only by a paltry Rs. 500.

The Chairman, Mr. Pinches, in quoting the old saying about lies, damned lies, and statistics, may have merely meant to be funny, or he may have meant to be insulting. It really does not matter which. The object of the reorganisation scheme put through against the advice of the Mundakayam P. A. was to reduce the acreage cess for the labour Department by making all Estates join it and by nominally doing away with its Director's salary at the expense of Head Office charges, and it certainly never occurred to us that to remember this would require a special brain effort. Our thanks are,



however, due to the Chairman for bringing out clearly the fact that the cost of the Head Office has increased so alarmingly because it covers a large portion of Labour Department expenditure. He has made it plain to every one that the Head Office of the Upasi could be worked with less than half the expenditure now debited to it if the items were properly apportioned, as they should be, and as we have suggested they should be in the proposal made (headings 1 to 9) in our letter of the 11th February.

Mr. Richardson pointed out how some of the increases in expenditure have come about, and taxes us with ignoring them. On the contrary we fully recognise them, but we also recognise that before Mr. Waddington went on furlough he had no assistant, and that should an assistant be found necessary, it is either because the Secretary or his Assistant, or both, have to do labour Department work, the cost of which is debited to the Head Office and not to the Department.

The Chairman's threat that should the extra 2 annas cess not be sanctioned Government would be informed that the annual contribution to the Mycological Department could not be paid was no doubt made in a moment of petulance and need not be taken seriously. It must be obvious to every-one that Rubber Planters have a better claim for a Mycologist than the Secretary, for example, has for an assistant.

This brings us to the report of the Labour Commission and we offer our thanks to Messrs Nicolls, Lord and Lee for the time so generously given. The changes they propose are in the right direction but do not go far enough. It is to be regretted that they have conceived and brought forward the suggestion of a subsidy from the Upasi to the different departments. There is always bound to be a difference of opinion as to how much that subsidy should be, and whether it should be a flat rate or a discriminating one. Would it not have been much better for them to have proposed that the acreage cesses suggested should cover the whole Expenditure of each of the Departments, instead of making a compromise as they have done in the shape of a subsidy. Would they not have secured more support had they boldly stated that for the Head Office expenditure say a maximum of Rs. 22500/- was needed, and should be subscribed to by all acreages, working out at about 2 annas per acre; that the Labour Department would require a minimum of Rs. 260,000/- and that it would be subscribed to by a cess on the acreage of members requiring the services of the Department; that the Rubber Mycologist would require Rs. 29000/- and that it would be subscribed to by rubber members, at say about 10 annas per acre. This would appear to be extremely simple, easy to work, and should appeal to everyone except those desirous of making everybody pay for the expensive Labour Department.

THE BUDGET MIGHT THEN WORK OUT SOMEWHAT AS FOLLOWS:—

EXPENDITURE.		REVENUE.	
Upasi Head Office	Rs. 20,000	Upasi cess on 180,000	
Labour Department	„ 260,000	acres @ 2 annas	Rs. 22,500
Special Mycologist	„ 29,000	Cess on rubber for speci-	
Sundry Expenditure	„ 2,000	al Mycologist @ 10	
		annas per acre on	
		43000 acres.	Rs. 26.875
		Contribution from	
		R. G. A.	„ 3,000
		Other sources	„ 2,000
		Cess from Subscribers	
		to Labour Depart-	
		ment, say 150,000	
		acres @ 1—12—0	„ 262,500
Surplus		Miscellaneous revenue	
Head Office	Rs. 2500	connected with the	
Mycologist	„ 875	Labour Departme-	
Labour		nt, say	„ 20,000
Department	„ 22500.		
	25,875		
	<hr/> 336,875		<hr/> 336.875

With such a budget as the foregoing is there any doubt that the Upasi would be worked more harmoniously than in the past, or that it would remove the long-standing grievance of members helping to pay for a costly Department that they do not require.

If the Labour Department is considered too costly, then the members subscribing to it have the remedy in their own hands, or if they wish to augment or extend its activities, they will not have to bludgeon others to pay for it (the Chairman on page 143 of the Planters' Chronicle of March 4th states that the Ex: Committee will exercise powers given them and will not admit votes on such areas as have not paid their subscriptions at the time of the meeting).

In our first letter, we alluded to the growing feeling against the increasing expenditure of the Association, and we stated that the Ex: Committee had no warrant for assuming the extra 2 annas cess would be voted.

Judging by the comments at the Committee Meeting, we were quite correct in our forecast and it now remains to be seen whether we shall be as correct in our allusions to the secession of acreages from District Associations.

Yours faithfully,  
(Sd) J. R. VINCENT.  
„ J. J. MURPHY.

#### U. P. A. S. I. HEAD OFFICE EXPENDITURE.

Sir, I should like you to publish my reasons for voting against the passing of the extra two annas cess as the Report of the last West Coast P. A. Meeting might cause misunderstanding.



It must be clearly understood in asking my Association to vote against this two annas I had no wish to repudiate our agreement but at the same time did wish to show my dislike of paying any more than the Rs. 1/4-per acre originally agreed.

My Company joined the U. P. A. S. I. as at present constituted to get.

(a) the Rubber Mycologist.

(b) for the possible POLITICAL advantages of the Labour Department.

The Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I. said at the General Committee Meeting of the 23rd February last that "if this extra two annas cess is not passed we shall have to notify Government that, among other things, we cannot possibly continue to pay for the Rubber Mycologist..."

I understand that beyond Government guaranteeing his salary, the Rubber Mycologist is paid by the U. P. A. S. I. So we are told that if this extra cess is not raised the first department to go will be the Rubber Mycologist.

This two annas cess is admittedly to be spent on the Labour Department. The amount it is to raise is Rs. 22413-this is so stated in the last Book of Proceedings. The acreage subscribing to the U. P. A. S. I. is represented by the following percentages.

TEA	44%
COFFEE	32%
RUBBER	24%

The Labour Commissioners in their Report recommend that money raised should be apportioned as follows:—

Labour department	78%
UPASI Office &c	13%
Rubber Mycologist	9%

I do not think I am unfair, therefore, in suggesting that those who really do use the Labour Department should find this extra money among themselves.

Of course, this extra two annas cess is bound to be passed at the next General Committee Meeting but I would remind the members of the U. P. A. S. I. that there are only two more years of our present agreement to run and if we are to continue as a "United"

Association we should be beginning to think about what we are to do in 1924.

E. H. HALLILEY.

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### BRITISH INCOME TAX.

Dear Sir,

May I remind those of your readers who receive income from the United Kingdom and have already made a claim to the Inland Revenue for repayment of the Income Tax deducted therefrom for last year, that a further claim can now be made in respect of the current financial year.

To those of your readers who possess such income and have not yet made their claims. I would point out that by the Finance Act 1920 a British Subject resident out of the United Kingdom is entitled to recover the whole or part of the Income Tax deducted from income arising in this country. With tax at 6/- the £. it means a very considerable addition to the income of such persons.

In addition to the above claims any person whether British subject or otherwise may recover the whole of the tax deducted from the interest on foreign and colonial securities paid through this country for the past three years. I have known these claims to amount to hundreds of pounds.

I have made the subject of Income Tax claims my special study and am prepared to give the benefit of my experience to any of your readers without charge, as it occurs to me that it is a great pity that many thousands of pounds should be lost annually through ignorance of a legal right.

I shall be very pleased to reply to any enquiries sent to me at the address stated below.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully  
SIDNEY KING.

Room 41, Langbourne Chambers,  
17, Fenchurch Street,  
London, E. C. 3. ENGLAND.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 31st March, 1922.

125s/-per cwt. Market quiet.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:—The Executive Committee have fixed the date for the next Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday the 21st of August 1922 and following days. As in previous years, the morning of the first day will be taken up for a Meeting of the General Committee, and the General Meeting itself will open in the afternoon of that day. The Meeting is to be held at Bangalore, probably in the Mayo Hall as in former years. It would be advisable for Secretaries of Associations to book rooms for their delegates in Bangalore as early as possible so as to avoid difficulty by leaving it to the last moment.

**INDIAN FACTORIES ACT:**—We note from the "*Labour Gazette*" that the bill to amend the Indian Factories' Act 1911, which had already been before the Legislative Assembly was passed by the council of State on January 23rd 1922. In introducing the Act, Mr. Innes, after tracing the genesis of the bill, said:—"The Working of the Act since 1911 reveals certain defects which must be removed. Moreover, public opinion has been growing strong on this subject, and the hands of the Government have been strengthened by the passing of some resolutions ratifying the Washington Convention." We have not yet received any copies of the New Act, but as soon as we learn from where they can be obtained we shall inform our readers.

**ROBUSTA COFFEE SEEDLINGS:**—The following notification from the Office of the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, Travancore, dated 20th March 1922 appears in the "*Travancore Gazette*." "Robusta Coffee Seedlings are available for sale at the Pepper Farm, Koni, at Rs 2/14 per 100 seedlings. Intending purchasers must apply to the Agricultural Sub-inspector in charge of the Farm with a remittance of the price and transport charges in advance."

**DISTRIBUTION OF QUININE:**—We have received the following notification from the Publicity Bureau, Madras;—

"The Government direct that the work of distributing quinine and quinine products upon indents from various medical institutions within and without this presidency, which has hitherto been done by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona), shall be transferred to the Jails Department with effect from 1st April 1922. The Superintendent, Penitentiary, Madras will be responsible for the work and will distribute the quinine etc., in accordance with the rules framed by Government. Indents for quinine and quinine products should with effect from 1st April 1922, be sent to that Officer and not to, the Deputy Director (Cinchona) at Ootacamund as hitherto. Indents, if any, already received by the Deputy Director should be transferred to the Madras Penitentiary for compliance in accordance with the procedure now laid down."

Lobour Department the Superintendent of the Palamcottah Division informs us that the Agency at Kadayanallur has been closed as from 31st March last.

**COFFEE MARKET REPORT:**—The reports from London, dated 1st and 9th March, report a firm tone at public sales, over 3000 bags of East India being catalogued during the two weeks. South Indian Coffee attracted keen competition for good home trade qualities, but export grades were not wanted, and a certain amount was bought in. The range of prices was fairly wide, varying from 103s. to 147s. 6d. or "A" size coffee. One fine lot of 16 bags of Peaberry realized



160/6d. Brokers at home anticipate a good market for East Indian Coffee throughout the year, as if, as is expected, the total quantity of East Indian Coffee does not exceed 25,000 bags, there is bound to be a shortage of Plantation coffee later on. Locally, the market is still firm, and some business has been done at Rs. 75/- ex bags Coimbatore. It would appear that there is not a very large quantity of coffee anywhere in India, so the prospects are that prices cannot fall for many months, and it is possible that local rates may rise considerably in the near future and remain high until new crop prospects are gauged.

TEA MARKET REPORT:—Smaller supplies have met with an active demand at a slight advance. The better kinds were in good request at full and steady prices.

RUBBER MARKET REPORT:—The small fluctuations which have been occurring are attributed chiefly to the operations of outside speculators. The demand from America remains very small, and there is now a general expectation among London dealers that manufacturers there will not come into the market for large quantities earlier than July. It is reported that, during the week under review, the stocks in London have been reduced by about 600 tons.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT NOTIFICATION.

### LATE CHINGLEPUT DIVISION

Although, having closed the Chingleput Division, we can no longer make enquiries as to status and property of new Maistries applying for work from the Districts which comprised that Division, all records and registers have now been collected at Head Office and indexed, so that planters should continue to refer to the Department before advancing applicants for maistrey's work, and we shall continue to register new men, and can safeguard estates from advancing men who are already registered as under engagement with other estates using the Department. Such references should be made to the Superintendent, Coimbatore Division.

The Register, at date, includes 467 Maistries coming from the Chingleput, Chittoor, Nellore, North & South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly Districts.

H. WADDINGTON

1st April 1922.

Director of Labour Department

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

## SRIVILLIPUTTUR DIVISION REPORT

The information embodied in this and the ensuing reports is first hand. By virtue of this, at least in part, it is unreliable and of questionable utility, existing conditions precluding any possibility of the verification of figures given. To arrive at any approximation of the true conditions in an area the size of this division, and to set them forth with any degree of guaranteed accuracy, would entail a considerable residence (for comparative purposes,) in any of the places mentioned, and the same in numberless places unmentioned. Indians being what they are in the matter of the giving of information with reference to correlative facts, and their general lack of interest or observation in matters not immediately concerning them or their work. The average peasant knows little and cares less of conditions prevailing beyond a five mile radius (if that,) of his native place, so long as that place provided him with the necessary sustenance. He is generally ready to give information, but it is invariably of doubtful quality as regards veracity. When the educated man is tapped, he generally displays a more profound ignorance than his lowlier brother, and sometimes not a little contempt, unless again he happens to be personally and vitally interested in the subject under discussion. The main idea throughout appears to be the desire to give information which will please though not necessarily assist. In as much as it has become compulsory for a report to be written on the subject, it is given, without any claim as to its accuracy, beyond very confined limits.

**SRIVILLIPUTTUR.** Rain has failed locally and particularly in the east, most tanks being dry early in the year, with the result that crops in the east failed. What paddy harvest there was is almost over. Recruiting should be good. Rice sells @  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures a rupee.

• **WATRAP.** There is seldom any lack of water in its vicinity and generally plenty of work in consequence. The paddy harvest is in full swing and will continue for some time. As there is sufficient water for second crop, ploughing and transplanting are going on.

**PERAIYUR.** Rain failed this year. Little paddy is grown in the vicinity but a fair amount of cotton. The picking season has started and will last for another two months or so. This work absorbs female labour for the most part. The male part of the population is engaged in the irrigation of dry crops. Cotton pickers earn from eight to ten annas a day while the season lasts. Recruiting should be good in due course. Rice sells @ 3 measures.



**TIRUMANGALAM.** Sufficient water is available for cultivation. Both paddy and cotton are largely grown in the vicinity. Rice sells at  $3\frac{1}{4}$  measures.

**USILAMPATTI.** A slight scarcity of water will be felt. The paddy harvest is practically over, and the cultivation of dry crops has begun. Small pox is prevalent in the town and surrounding villages. Rice sells at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures.

**ANDIPATTI.** Very little wet cultivation is done here, most of the crops being dry ones. Water is scarce. A certain amount of the labour is always engaged in the forest reserves. Plague has been prevalent for some months with the consequent evacuation of villages. Small-pox has also broken out fairly badly. Rice sells at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures.

**BODINAYAKANUR.** Water is fairly plentiful. The paddy crop has only been fair, and the main part of the harvest is over. Rice sells at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures.

**UTTAMAPALAYAM.** The Periyar project ensures a steady supply of water, with the result that cultivation wet and dry is always possible absorbing in consequence a large amount of labour. Rice sells at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  measures.

Wages for men vary largely all over the district, anything from As. 6 to Rs. 1—4—0, according to what is designated skilled or unskilled labour, and in the case of two men working side by side, one may get eight annas and the other a rupee per day, for example, in the harvesting of sugar cane and the manufacture of jaggery. Paddy harvesters receive so many measures of paddy for the days work, generally in the vicinity of three or according to the outturn. Field labourers get up to As. 12 according to the strenuousness of the work. In cases where they have an interest in the land they are paid in kind, and by results.

Women receive from five to ten annas, the latter figure in the case of cotton picking and the former in ordinary field work. In a wet taluk a man can earn throughout the year As. 12 a day, and in a dry one annas eight approximately.

There is never in the ordinary course of events a superfluity of labour. The reverse is generally the case.

(Sd) A. H. MACKIE,

### **SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.**

A reference having been made to this Association with reference to Labour Rates of pay, the Committee ask that in future such references should be made through the U. P. A. S. I. in the first instance, in order to enable the Association to consider the question, and, when submitting them to the S. I. A., London, to express an opinion,

### SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 58TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT SAKLASPUR ON 23RD MARCH, 1922.

PRESENT : Messrs. C. Lake (President), R. G. T. Anderson, A. Durham, F. M. Hamilton, P. Hunt, St. J. Hunt E. M. Nixon, M. A. de Weck and Major A. L. Hill, O., B. E., M. C. (Hon : Sec).

BY PROXY : Lt : Col, W. L. Crawford, D. S. O., Mr. C. H. Godfrey.

VISITOR : Mr. J. W. Keith.

The Minutes of the two last Meetings were confirmed.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen : It is usual for your President to make a few remarks on the past season and prospects of Coffee generally at our Annual Meeting. Although the crops just harvested have been in most cases much below the average owing to excessive rains during last year's blossom season we have been largely compensated for the poor yields by the good prices now obtainable for all grades of our commodity.

The Short East Indian crop coupled with the lowest rate of exchange experienced in this country for many years have caused a steady increase in values during the last few months and the position of coffee has seldom been stronger than it is at present.

*Roads and Transport:* This year has seen the inauguration of a Motor Service from Hassan to Saklaspur and Belur which has much improved our tappal arrangements and is a great convenience to the Community.

I think I may also say that there has been a considerable improvement in many of the roads in the District and that this is, in a measure, due to the fact that members of this Association have taken up lump sum contracts to keep them in order. Now that this system has been started I hope that more members will come forward and do their bit, and so help to make this District a pleasanter place to live in.

*The U. P. A. S. I. :* You have on your Agenda today an important matter in the Report of the Labour Commission.

I do not intend to discuss their findings here, but I must confess that I am surprised to see they recommend a further reorganization of the U. P. A. S. I.



As you are aware, gentlemen, it is only 3 years since the Parent Association was reorganised on the present lines after much thought and careful deliberation, and yet, today, we find the Chairman of the Upasi in that year and the present Chairman, who, by the way, was the mover of the resolution which brought about that reorganisation, both advocating a scheme to again split up the Upasi into separate Departments.

I may be mistaken, but it seems to me that, so far, no adequate reasons have been given for so drastic a reform, or shall I say retrograde movement, and that if we return to the old idea of separate Departments, making it optional to join them, it will be the beginning of the end, at any rate, of the Labour Department.

Whether we reorganize again or continue as we are, it is apparent from the Upasi budget and from the report of the Labour Commission that more money is required if the Upasi is to be efficiently carried on, and this being so, surely it would be a better plan to slightly raise the present rates of subscription than to upset the existing state of affairs for what has already been tried and found wanting.

I have so far seen no convincing reasons given for the new proposals but I can see several reasons against them, and I would ask you when this subject comes up for discussion today to give it your very careful consideration before committing yourselves to any policy which you may afterwards regret.

*P. B. Fund:* Before I sit down I should like to appeal once more to those members, who have not already joined the Planters' Benevolent Fund, to do so and also to put their Estates on.

The amount asked for is so small and the good being done by the Fund is so great that we should all support it to the best of our ability. I should also like to see this Association continue to support the Fund by paying a yearly subscription, and I trust that you will sanction this before the meeting closes. It may not be out of place here for me to make a suggestion with regard to the voting by District Associations of grants from this Fund. It might, perhaps, increase subscriptions as well as be fairer if their voting powers were regulated on the basis of the amount subscribed by them annually to the Fund at the rate of one vote for every Rs. 10.

Gentlemen, I now place my resignation in your hands, and in doing so I wish to thank Major Hill, for the very able manner in which he has carried on the work of the Association, and the Committee for all the help I have received from them during the year,

(Sd) C. LAKE.

---

### THE HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Gentlemen, I beg to submit a report for the year 1921-1922.

*Membership:* At the beginning of the year there were 44 estates with an acreage of 7684 and 1 personal member. During the year 1 estate resigned after 6 months notice on sale to a non-member, 2 estates transferred to the Nilgiri Planters' Association and 3 estates joined. A registered acreage revision was attempted but the response was not satisfactory. The U. P. A. S. I. printed acreage forms produced rather better results and were finally, after serious delays in some cases, all collected. The membership now at the end of the year is 44 estates with an acreage of 7364 and 2 personal members. The figures for the coming year are 44 estates with an acreage of 7860 and 2 personal members.

*Accounts;* These are laid on the table for your inspection. The reserve fund has been increased by Rs. 129 to Rs. 2716 which is on fixed deposit at 5% falling due on 25—4—22.

One member owes his subscription for 1919-20, 1920-21 and 1921-22, amounting in all to Rs. 192-8-0, and another owes his for the second half of this year, amounting to Rs. 35-1-0, a total due to the Association of Rs. 227-9-0.

Owing to the extra As. 2 per acre Cess raised by the U. P. A. S. I. the rate of subscription has been Rs. 1¼ per acre. The total amount due the U. P. A. S. I. has been paid and we have a balance in hand of Rs. 109-11-1.

In consequence of our having to pay the U. P. A. S. I. in advance, the dates for payment of subscriptions have been altered to March 1st and September 1st for the 1st and 2nd half-years respectively. Collection for the first half of 1922-23 has therefore been begun but is not dealt with in this year's accounts.

From 1—4—22 the collection of all ordinary subscriptions, the collection of information from individual members and the sending out to individual members of circulars from the U. P. A. S. I. will be carried out by the Assistant Secretary to the U. P. A. S. I. instead of by your Hon; Secretary as hitherto. The estimated cost is Rs. 15 a month.

*S. I. P. B. F.:* This fund was reorganized with effect from the beginning of the year, direct collection of subscriptions by V. P. P. or otherwise being authorized. With one exception all our subscribers have signed Form "B" and agreed to the V. P. P. collection. These new arrangements are the cause of the small sum appearing in the accounts this year. In addition to the Association itself being a Life



Member, we have 4 life Members, 1 Member subscribing Rs. 15, 15 subscribing Rs. 10/- and 2 estates subscribing Rs. 25/- a year. 2 more estates will subscribe from next year.

*Meetings* :—Including the present one, there have been 4 General and Extraordinary Meetings during the year, Excluding the present one, the average attendance, including proxies, has been 9.

*Incorporation* :—The final papers have been signed and sent in to the U. P. A. S. I. for submission to Government, so it is hoped that the issue of a License will not be delayed much longer. The amendments already decided upon will have to be made after the issue of the License ; this however will present no difficulties.

*Central Committee of the Three Mysore Associations* :—This Committee has been constituted, but at present its only duty is to call a Joint Meeting of the three Associations not less than once a year.

*Hayward Memorial* :—The total subscribed was Rs. 425/- which were expended on a draft for £. 27—18—11 sent to the late Mr. Hayward's father for the erection of the tablet. The correspondence will be passed round to members.

*Auxiliary Force (India)*—No. 1 Coorg and Mysore Motor Machine Gun Company has been formed and some members of the Association have joined. In conjunction with the other Mysore Associations we have a representative on the Advisory Committee.

*Act XIII of 1859* :—Our representations to the Select Committee to consider the proposed amendments of this Act were successful. At the same time we asked that Government should press for the reciprocity of warrants under the Act with British India. The Government of Mysore has entered into correspondence with the Government of India with a view to securing reciprocity.

*Upasi Buying Agency* :—The Association supported this by joining but it is not known how many members did so, or how the Agency is progressing. Its Secretary has called for information from subscribers.

*Labour Commission* :—The Commission came to Saklaspur in January to meet this Association and interviewed the members who were present. All members should have received the Commission's report.

*Succession Act in Mysore* :—In accordance with previous representations of the Association, the Mysore Government has introduced a bill to amend the Succession Act in Mysore in respect of granting exemption from giving security in cases of probate as distinguished from

letters of administration, thus bringing it into conformity with the law in British India on this point.

*U. P. A. S. I. Budget for 1922--23:*—At an extraordinary meeting specially held to consider the matter, the Association resolved to agree to the extra As. 2 per acre Cess again budgetted for by the U. P. A. S. I. This will make the subscription for the coming year Rs. 1/4 per acre.

*H. R. H. The Prince of Wales:*—The Association sent a letter welcoming H. R. H. on his arrival at Mysore and received a letter of appreciation.

*Goods shed at Hassan Station:*—Thanks to the good offices of Col: Crawford, the Railway Authorities finally allotted the Association a site in the station for a shed, which was to have been taken over on 1—1—22. On that day however the Railway Sub Divisional Officer at Hassan informed me that he had recommended our being given a better site nearer the present Railway goods shed. The change has not yet been sanctioned, but meanwhile a contract, subject to our being allotted a suitable site and to the Railway Authorities approving of our building plans, has been drawn up ready for signature, and the first half of the subscriptions i. e. As. 4 per acre has been called up. Messrs. R. G. T. Anderson and Rutherford have very kindly undertaken to supervise the construction of the shed.

The accounts are laid on the table for your inspection.

This gentlemen, concludes my report and I now place my resignation in your hands.

(Signed) A. L. HILL, Hon. Sec.

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**ACCOUNTS:**—The Association's financial position was discussed and it was resolved that the interest on the Reserve Fund accruing on 25—4—22 should be credited to the Current Account.

The accounts were passed subject to audit and Messrs. Anderson and Hamilton undertook the audit. Later this was carried and the accounts found to be correct.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:**—The arrangements for the collection of subscriptions from 1—4—22 were explained. It was resolved to ask the U. P. A. S. I. to take legal proceedings against the member who owes 3 years' subscriptions.



LABOUR COMMISSION:—The Chairman addressed the meeting as follows:—Gentlemen, I said in my opening remarks that I could see several objections to the reorganization of the Upasi as proposed by the Labour Commission.

I propose to give some of them as they appear to me.

1. There will probably be a large falling off in the number of Estates subscribing to the Labour Department.

2. Consequently its efficiency will be much impaired and subscribers to it will have to pay a higher rate than that mentioned in the Labour Commission's report.

This objection may or may not apply to the Rubber Mycologist Department but with rubber at 8d. per lb it well might.

3. The splitting up the Upasi into Departments will in reality decrease the total income of the Association owing to falling off of subscribers.

4. It will also tend to make expenditure at Headquarters larger than it is at present.

This was proved under the old regime and it was largely owing to this that the Departments were united under one control in 1919.

These are a few of the objections which occur to me and I cannot see that it will be any advantage to us as subscribers or to the Upasi as a whole if these proposals are adopted.

A widely ranging discussion followed and finally the following resolution proposed by Mr. St. J. Hunt and seconded by Mr. Durham was carried:—That this Association is strongly of opinion that the proposals by the Labour Commission for the disintegration of the U. P. A. S. I., accompanied as they are by increased subscriptions, would be fatal to the interests of this Association and of the Planting Industries generally in Southern India."

"It is further of opinion that the U. P. A. S. I., and its various departments should remain united."

MANURE SHED AT HASSAN:—The proposed contract for the construction of the shed was read and agreed to.

A vote of thanks to Col. Crawford, Messrs. R. G. T. Anderson, Rutherford and the Hon. Sec. for the work they had done in this connection was recorded.

Mr. Keith of Messrs. Parry & Co. was thanked for his Firm's contribution and he promised on their behalf support in the future.

The accounts of the Manure Shed Fund were audited by Messrs. Anderson and Hamilton and found correct.

**MANURIAL EXPERIMENTS WITH LIMESTONE:** Correspondence was read and the possibility of utilising local limestone was discussed. Mr. Keith informed the Meeting of the steps taken by Messrs. Parry & Co. in the matter and promised to let the Association know the results of the grinding experiments Messrs. Massey & Co. Ltd. had arranged to carry out.

**SANDERSON MEMORIAL WARD & ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE FOR 1922--23:**—Mr. Durham explained the financial position of the Ward, showed that it was in need of funds for equipment and upkeep to the extent of about Rs. 200 annually and mentioned several private donations that had been made. It was decided to circularise members with an appeal for funds.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Durham for representing the Association for two years was recorded and it was decided to ask Mr. L. P. Kent to be our representative for 1922—23.

**DUSSERAH SESSION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND ELECTION OF A DELEGATE:**—It was pointed out that the Association would shortly be called upon to name its member of the Assembly for the three years commencing with the Dusserah Session of 1922. Mr. St. John Hunt was accordingly elected.

**ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE FOR 1922—23:**—The results of the voting were as follows:—

*President*                      Col. CRAWFORD.

*Hon. Sec.*                      Mr. P. HUNT.

Mr. P. Hunt finding himself unable to undertake the work Mr. Durham kindly consented to do so and was elected by acclamation.

*Committee.*                      Mr. LAKE & MAJOR HILL.

**ELECTION OF U. P. A. S. I. REPRESENTATIVES FOR 1922—23:**  
The result of the voting was as follows:—

U. P. A. S. I. Representatives, Col. CRAWFORD,

Mr. DURHAM.



WELCOME TO H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES:—The Association's letter of welcome and the reply were read to the meeting.

COFFEE OFFICER, KENYA COLONY:—Letter No. 7767 of 8-3-22 from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. was read.

RECRUITING IN THE BILLIGIRIPANGAN HILLS:—Letter No. 7596 of 3-3-22 from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. was read and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to reply that the Association was unable to intervene in this matter.

ACT XIII OF 1859:—The report of the Select Committee to consider the proposed amendments of this Act in Mysore was read and recorded.

GOLF TOURNAMENT:—It was decided to nominate a team provided its expenses were borne by its members.

A. F. I. ADVISORY COMMITTEE:—The nomination of Col. Crawford and Capt. R. W. Fremlin to the Advisory Committee was agreed to.

HASSAN DISTRICT BOARD:—Col. Crawford having resigned his membership from the end of the month, a vote of thanks to him was recorded, and it was decided to ask Mr. Rutherford to represent the Association on the Hassan District Board from 1-4-1922.

ELECTION OF A NEW MEMBER:—Proposed by the President and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. A. de Weck was elected a member of the Association.

S. I. P. B. F. The President asked for further support for the S. I. P. B. F. from members and suggested that the Association should subscribe regularly at the rate of Rs. 25 a year. This was agreed to and some further support from members was forthcoming.

With a vote of thanks to the retiring President and Hon. Secretary the Meeting ended.

(Signed) C. LAKE (President)

" A. L. HILL (Hon. Sec)

**SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD ON THE 7TH MARCH 1922 AT  
2 P. M. AT THE VICTORIA ROOMS, YERCAUD.

PRESENT:—Mrs. M. S. R. Short, Mrs. V. A. Lechier, Messrs  
V. L. Travers-Drapes (Hon. Secretary and Chairman)  
S. M. Hight, N. M. Hight, C. L. Hight, C. D. Ryle,  
W. Rahm, W. A. Rahm and H. S. Dickins.

VISITORS:—Mr. F. J. Ryle.

Notice calling the Meeting was taken as read.

With the consent of the Meeting the following items were added to the Agenda:—(1) Yercaud Hospital (2) Nagalur Post Office (3) Roads.

Read and confirmed proceedings of the Extraordinary General dated 23rd January 1922, and Committee Meetings dated 5—1—1922 and 9—2—1922.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT COIMBATORE ON 22—2—1922:—Mr. H. S. Dickins explained verbally what took place at this meeting, and called Members' attention to the proceedings reported in the Planters' Chronicle of 4th March, extracts from which he read out and explained in detail. He explained the financial position and exhorted every subscriber to help and hold together what we had so hardly gained viz., a strong and United Community that carried weight.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Dickins for his report was passed.

U. P. A. S. I. BUDGET:—Notice of the U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting called for 30—3—1922 was read. Proposed by Mr. H. S. Dickins and seconded by Mr. S. M. Hight: "That this Association do agree to pay to the U. P. A. S. I. the extra two annas cess per acre for the year 1922/23." *Carried unanimously.*

The Hon.-Secretary was authorized to forward a copy of this resolution, and a proxy to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. and to ask him to select some one to represent us at the forthcoming Meeting.

ELECTION OF DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER:—Read two letters No. 3767 A dated 21—2—1922 from the President, District Board, Salem asking this Association to nominate a member for the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. H. S. Dickins.

Mr. V. A. Rahm was asked to fill the vacancy, and replied that as this had been sprung upon him, he would like a week to consider it. Pending Mr. Rahm's reply the matter was left at that.

NAGALUR DISPENSARY:—The Chairman read letter, No 193 d dated 17—2—1922, from the President, District Board, Salem and



explained the position as it now stood. He felt sure they need not look to the Taluk Board, for future maintenance grants, as already the Taluk Board had intimated that their finance did not admit of their upkeep of the Yercaud Hospital. As this matter chiefly concerns the Nagalur District it was decided that Mr. S. M. Hight call a meeting of the Planters interested and communicate to the Honorary Secretary their final decision.

In the meantime the Honorary Secretary was instructed to record the letter referred to, and in reply to request that under the unusual circumstances that had arisen, and the out break of plague having been the cause of delay in finding a suitable Contractor to start work at once, the period and allotment made by Government may be extended for another year.

YERCAUD HOSPITAL :—Read and recorded letter No. 591/b/1 dated 25—2—22. Resolved that this matter be placed in the hands of the Standing Committee, who are requested to deal in detail with the letter referred to, and to draw up an alternative scheme.

NAGALUR POST OFFICE :—Mr. S. M. Hight informed the meeting that the Sub-post Master had inspected the proposed temporary P. O. Building, on Moganaad Estate and had approved of same. This had been placed at his disposal free of rent. He (Mr. Hight) hoped the telegraph line would be extended to the new location and that this information may be communicated to the Superintendent of Post Offices, Vellore.

ROADS :—Mrs. V. A. Lechler brought up the question of the Eachinkadu-Green Hills bridle path. In spite of many representations, no attempt had yet been made to reopen the 5 furlongs abandoned over three years ago. Capt. Ryle also complained that the abandonment of this section in favour of a diversion was a great hardship to nearly all members of his Detachment I. A. F. who now had to go the long way round to the Butts.

Proposed by Mr. H. S. Dickins and Seconded by Mrs. V. A. Lechler: That this Association bring to the notice of the Collector of the Salem District, the high handed procedure adopted by the Officials concerned, in abandoning 5 furlongs of the Eachinkadu Green Hills Bridle path for the past two or more years. This bridle path has been in existence for the past 70 years, and been previously maintained by the District Board, Salem, and subsequently by the Taluk Board, Salem. This abandonment has been effected without reference to either the public of the Shevaroy's, the Residents of the Green Hills or the Planters Association. This is a great hardship and demands an immediate enquiry. *Carried unanimously.*

The report of the Labour Commission was distributed to members present, and the Meeting then terminated, with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(Signed) V. L. TRAVERS DRAPES,

Hony. Secretary & Chairman

**MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION**

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE  
MUNDAKAYAM CLUB ON MARCH 25TH 1922 AT 2-30 P. M.**

**PRESENT.** Messrs F. G. Millar, (Chairman.) J. J. Murphy, W. M. Stanten, R. P. Stott, F. H. Moulton, H. R. Carson Parker, I. James, R. M. Saywell, E. Hall, J. R. Vincent, R. Harley, & G. A. Brooke, (Hon. Secy.)

**VISITORS:-** Messrs. T. W. H. Fitchett, H. Ashplant, M. F. Shore, & A. H. Meade.

**MINUTES.** The notice calling the meeting was read. The Minutes of the annual general meeting were read and confirmed, and also the minutes of the committee meeting held on January 28th. 1922.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS.** Attention was called to the large amount due by estates, both on U. P. A. S. I. account and on local P. A. account. Members were asked to make every effort to pay these arrears, as soon as possible. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with estates from which money was due and to ask that the local subscription, and if possible the whole amount be paid at once.

**U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEB 22ND.** The chairman read his report as delegate to this meeting. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Millar for representing the Association at this Meeting.

**EXTRA 2 ANNAS CESS TO THE U. P. A. S. I. FOR THE YEAR 1922/23** The Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I.'s circular of March 1st was read and discussed. Mr. Murphy proposed, and Mr. Vincent seconded, "That this Association oppose the imposition of the extra 2 annas cess."

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

**ABANDONED AREAS.** Attention was called to the definition of Abandoned Areas as laid down at the U. P. A. S. I. general committee meeting of Nov 28th last.

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBER.** Mr Harley was asked to re-consider his resignation from the committee, tendered his letter of February 24th, but he declined to do so.

It was proposed by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Millar, and carried unanimously, that Mr. G. H. Danvers Davy be elected to fill the vacancy.

**DELEGATE to forthcoming U. P. A. S. I. General committee Meeting.** The Secretary was instructed to forward a letter of authority to the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I., in accordance with his letter of February 25th., to enable the vote of this Association against the extra 2 annas cess, to be recorded by some person present at the meeting.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was read.

1. Letter from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. regarding Moplah Labour.

2. Letter from Hon. Secy. Travancore Combined P. A. regarding proposed Income-tax to be levied on Rubber Estates in Travancore.

It was decided to co-operate with the T. C. P. A. in the opposition they propose to make to this tax, and Mr. C. L. Mclean agreed to act on the Committee they propose to constitute.

3. Mr. J. R. Vincent's report on his deputation to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

A unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Vincent for his representation was passed.

4. Letter from U. P. A. S. I. regarding inter-district sports.

It was decided not to enter a team for the proposed Golf Tournament.

5. Letter dated March 25th from Mr. J. R. Vincent, Proprietor.

Nenmeny and Redlynch Estates, resigning membership of Association on behalf of these estates.

6. Letter from Mr. J. R. Vincent, Superintendent Kutikul Estate, resigning membership of the Association on behalf of this estate

The Hon. Secy. said that in view of the estate of which he was an employee having tendered it's resignation, he would be compelled to do the same.

The Chairman stated that the resignations of these estates could not be accepted, and that no estate could resign until March 31st 1924.

Mr. Murphy suggested that Mr Vincent be asked to withdraw these letters and reconsider this question in 3 months time.

Mr. Vincent replied that if the total amount of subscription could be reduced to 14 annas per acre, i. e. 10 annas for the Mycological Station, 2 annas for the local association, and 2 annas for the U. P. A. S. I. Head Office, he would be prepared to withdraw his resignation.

The Chairman pointed out that it was incumbent on all members of the Mundakayam Planters' Association to meet their obligations through the Association to the U. P. A. S. I. and that though the legal aspect was obscured by the fact that the Incorporation of the M. P. A. had not been carried through, the moral obligation remained, and was probably enforceable.

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed.

(Signed) F. G. MILLAR

Chairman.

G. A. BROOKE

Hon. Secy,

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT.****SOUTH KANARA SEASON REPORT FOR MARCH, 1922.**

**WEATHER**—:No rain. Skies are cloudy up weather is very sultry.

**CROPS**—:Water is sufficient for drinking purposes, but is getting scarce for irrigation.

**PRICE OF GRAINS**—:The same as reported last month, i. e. Rs. 7 per Murah of 84 lbs.

**LABOUR**—:Coolies are commencing to go up to the tea districts coffee estates. Coolies have not returned to their villages in any great numbers.

**HEALTH**—:Is on the whole good.

The Superintendent was laid up for some ten days owing to an operation, but is now in office again.

(Signed) F. A. WINTERBATHAM.

Superintendent.

**SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.****REPORT NO. 11 OF 1922. (19th March—1st April)**

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, returned to headquarters from a tour of inspection in the High Range on 31st March. While in this district Mr. Anstead visited a number of estates and addressed a meeting of the local Planters' Association. He will now be at headquarters until the Easter holidays.

**2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (12th to 25th March)**

Hot weather conditions prevail, of course, all over South India, and little but routine work is going on at the Experiment Stations. Rain will be welcomed at all of them, and is anxiously awaited. At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, spike is well forward and blossom showers are eagerly awaited. The chief work done was the removal of old shade trees and their roots from the plot of old coffee which is being collar pruned. At the *Tea experiment Station*, the weather is very dry and there is a shortage of water. Manuring and forking of the plots has been finished. 713 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 6.33 acres during the first week and 788 lbs. from 8.27 acres, the second week.

At the *Rubber Experiment Stations* little work can be done. At Mooply, a girth census is being taken and only tapping is that being done for the Rubber Mycologist. At Tenmalai, the drains have been cleared and the well is being deepened.

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD.

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

[*The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.*]

**U. P. A. S. I. RE-ORGANISATION.**

Sir.

It strikes me, Mr Editor, that many critics and members of the U. P. A. S. I. are on the "ninepence for fourpence" stunt.

One frequently hears complaints that the Labour Dept has not been able to supply new connections and introduce more Labour generally. Now, a comparison between N. and S. India may be interesting here.

A Garden in Assam, we will say, intends to open out another 100 acres, and wants, we will say, another 100 Coolies. These cost the Assam Planter, possibly, Rs. 150 each to recruit. Cost Rs. 15,000/.

The South Indian Planter who also wants to open out another 100 acres gets peeved because the Labour Dept. does not supply these immediately *free of cost for the 1st year*. This is a cold fact, as the S. I. Planter, would not pay one pie to the U. P. A. S. I. till the 100 acres was actually planted, and then he would only pay Rs 1—10—0 all told, per acre.

The Anamallais have always held that the Sub. is inadequate for efficiency and service, and they are obviously right; as if Tea requires one coolie per acre which costs Assam say Rs. 150, how can the S. I. Planter expect the same for, say, one sixth part of the annual interest only on the Assam Planters "investment", and no risk of Capital except in the way of advances, which could certainly be reduced to a minimum if we were not so keen on getting a bulge on the next door blighter, a game in which the "ignorant" coolie takes a keen interest and generally the pool

I'm not as Biblically inclined as I ought to be, but, in The Book, I remember something about a brother's eye and a mote. Possibly there is more need for Agreement and Reform among ourselves with the aid and advice of Labour Dept. Officials, than for a lot of us, who cannot agree among ourselves, to reform the Labour Dept. Instead of going on with this ninepence for fourpence foolishness, let us back up the Anamallais, and agree to

pay a fair price for Service, and take warning from Labour developments at Home which show that Federation, not mere Association, may be necessary before many years pass

What we have, however, to realise immediately is that there is not enough Labour in circulation among our present connections, and unless more Labour is introduced, either by private or UPASI developments, present difficulties will increase. It is all very well keeping up the cry of "Let those who want the Labour pay", but those who want Labour may get ours by paying competitive rates. Concrete example:- Badega Labour from the Nilgiris to Anamallais, Wynaad etc. While I dislike the idea of increased subs, as much as anyone else, there seems nothing for it but to swallow the pill as cheerfully as possible.

Whether the Labour Dept. in future is to be part of the UPASI, affiliated or absolutely separate, the simple fact remains that unless we pay our full ninepence, we shall not get nine penny worth.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd) A. S. DANDISON.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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125s/-per cwt. Market Firm

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

**LIABILITY OF TEA COMPANIES TO INCOME-TAX:**—With reference to the question of framing rules to determine the basis on which a division can be made as between the "Agricultural" and the "Manufacturing" profits of a tea company, the Sub Committee, which has been appointed by Government of India in consultation with the Indian Tea Association, with a view to making recommendations which will be acceptable both to Government and to the Industry, has invited the U. P. A. S. I to send a member to represent the South Indian views to give evidence before the Sub Committee. The Executive Committee selected Mr. J. A. Richardson, M. L. C., for this purpose and he has gone to Calcutta to represent South India accompanied by Mr. H. L. Pinches, the Chairman. They were to have met the Special Sub-Committee on the 10th Instant,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:—As Mr. C. E. Abbot, Member-in-waiting for Tea, has left India for good, the Executive Committee resolved to ask Mr. R. Fowke, Nilgiri-Wynaad Planters' Association, to become Member-in-waiting for Tea. Mr. Fowke has accepted the nomination with grateful thanks.

INTER DISTRICT TENNIS TOURNAMENT:—The first match for the Inter-District Tennis Tournament Cup was played at the Anamallai Club on the 2nd April, and resulted in the Kanan Devan beating the Anamallais. Up to the time of writing full details have not reached us beyond the short mention that Messrs. Pinches and Innman beat Messrs. Maule and Dennis in the doubles, and Mr. A. H. Dixon defeated Mr. A. C. Cotton and Mr. Pinches defeated Mr. Maule in the singles.

INTER-DISTRICT GOLF TOURNAMENT:—So far we have only heard of two Districts likely to enter the new Golf Tournament proposed for this year. It is to be hoped that more Districts will come forward so as to make the first Golf Tournament of the U. P. A. S. I. a success.

NILGIRI NURSING HOME:—We would like to draw the attention of our readers to Dr. Milton's letter, which appears in this week's issue. There is no doubt that every planter should become a subscriber to the South Indian Nursing Association, and not only intend to become a subscriber but to start right away with his subscription *now*. The difference between the rates charged to Members and non-members is so very great that it is the duty of everyone to insure himself against the possibility of having to pay non-member's rates. These latter are so heavy that if, by any misfortune, a planter had to go to either of the Nursing Homes as a non-member he might be financially crippled for months.

MAPS OF THE MADURA DISTRICT. The Superintendent of the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department, Palamcottah, informs us that he has a few spare copies of the Madura District Touring Map, bound in cloth, which can be supplied to any subscriber requiring the same. The price of the Map, including postage, packing, etc., is Rs. 5.

RUBBER MARKET:—We quote the following remarks by "Macson" published in the "India Rubber Journal."

"The condition of affairs is really worse than ever, for growers stand exposed in their reckless over production. The February outputs are now being published, and do not show the falling off promised, but look like going the same way as those of January. The Dutch Growers' outputs for January are now also available, and these look as though an effort had been made to double instead of to restrict production.

But there are whisperings on the market calculated to induce buyers to come in. There is talk of a big buying syndicate of myste-



rious power, and there is the Dutch proposal for concessions on the British tea duty to be met by agreement on their side to fall in with our rubber restriction proposals.

The real good point is that things are so glaringly bad that common sense will at last be hammered into the producing side."

If "Macson" himself if were a producer, or, better still, an employee of a Producing Company, perhaps his common sense would show him somebody more in need of being "hammered" than the already overharassed planter. "Survival of the fittest" is the only real cure for rubber.

**BRITISH TEA DUTY.** The move on the part of the Dutch for concessions on British Tea, referred to in the above paragraph, emanated with a letter from the British Chamber of Commerce for the Netherlands East Indies to the Association of Tea Buyers in London in January last. Therein it was advocated that, for many reasons, it would be a decided advantage to the United Kingdom to repeal the Preferential Duty on British Grown Tea, and to allow all Teas free into the London market. We are glad to learn that the South Indian Association in London have expressed their opinion that they are unable to support this proposal. It would now seem that this proposal from the Netherlands Indies is an attempt to hatch out a new "Rubber salvation" egg at the expense of British Grown Tea, and we sincerely hope that the Indian Tea Association and South Indian Association in London will not allow any such scheme to fructify.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### MONTHLY REPORT. MYSORE CIRCLE MARCH 1922.

The weather during the month has been hot and dry. A few maistries have returned from the Estates for 'Ugadi' and are recruiting for next season. In my opinion it would be well if Estates employing Canarese labour could arrange to send recruiters in time for this festival, as their coolies congregate at the various 'Jatres' and, having nothing in the way of cultivation to do and usually being short to money, are more likely to be persuaded to take advance to work on the Estates than they are later in the year when work is abundant.

In the Taluks of Nagamangala, Gubbi, and Turuvekere, crops last season were very poor, water and fodder are scarce and coolies are possibly available if the right sort of recruiter were sent down. It is now however impossible to recommend any maistry who can supply a gang of coolies, as these kind of men, if well to do, can find more lucrative employment in their own country, and those who agree to supply labour are usually men of straw and absolutely untrustworthy.

If Estate recruiters are sent, it should be impressed upon them that the U. P. A. S. I. Agents of the various taluks know a good deal of the reputation of the various villages and also of coolies, and that before advances are given the Agents' advice should be taken, also on no account should un-married men without families be advanced or married ones who will not agree to take in their wives. The rate of wages now being paid to coolies in the Mysore Country vary for men from As. 4 and a mid-day meal to As. 14 per day.

The former rate is the lowest I have heard of and is only being paid by ryots in out of the way villages. The latter rate is being paid in Mysore Town by Contractors for unskilled labour doing earth work. The average daily wage may be taken as As. 6 for men, and As. 4 for women when work is available.

The price of food stuffs on the whole is higher than that of last year and as work is not plentiful in the villages and Government Public Works have been greatly curtailed there should be some prospect of the recruitment of labour especially by those Estates who supply cheap grain.

(Signed). C. C. KENT.

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### NORTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of this Association held at Chikmagalur on the 27—3—1922.

PRESENT. Messrs. C. H. Godfrey (President), W. H. Reed, E. L. Poyser, F. I. Morgan, E. W. Fowke, M. A. de Weck (Hon. Secretary).

BY PROXY, Messrs. F. I. Parton, C. P. Reed, S. L. Mathias.

Notice calling the Meeting was read,

REPORT OF OUR REPRESENTATIVE AT THE U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON 22—2—1922. No Report was made as the proceedings had been sufficiently reported on in the Planter's Chronicle.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE U. P. A. S. I. THE EXTRA TWO ANNAS CESS FOR 1922—1923.

(a) Proposed from the Chair that the Secretary be and is hereby empowered to instruct our Representative at the General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. at Coimbatore on 30—3—1922, to record the votes of this Association in favour of the extra two annas cess for 1922—1923, *Carried unanimously.*



(b) Proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke and Seconded by Mr. F. I. Morgan:—"that the extra two annas cess for 1922—1923 be paid for out of the funds standing to the credit of this Association" *Carried*.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of this Association held at Chikmagalur on 27—3—1922.

PRESENT. Messrs. C. H. Godfrey (President), W. H. Reed, E. L. Poyser, F. I. Morgan, E. W. Fowke, M. A. de Weck (Hon. Secretary).

By PROXY. Messrs. F. I. Parton, C. P. Reed, S. L. Mathias.

Notice of the Meeting having been read, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

The President then read his address. [Address not yet to hand. Ed:]

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT. The Hon. Secretary read his report as follows;—

Gentlemen, The number of estates on the Register is 40 representing a total of 8063 acres. One estate of 105 acres has submitted its resignation owing to its passing into the hands of non-member of this Association. Payment of subscriptions has been fairly satisfactory, but I will say no more on this subject as it comes up for discussion later on during the meeting. Only six estates are in arrears with subscriptions amounting to Rs. 651/9- which I have no doubt will be paid almost immediately,

The revenue during the past year has been derived from the following sources, from subscriptions Rs. 9559—11—0; from arrears of subscriptions Rs. 1147—6—0 and from interest on Fixed Deposit and Current Account Rs. 127. The funds to the credit of this Association are Rs. 2000 on Fixed Deposit and a Cash Balance of Rs. 2067—3—7.

Gentlemen, I beg to submit my resignation of the Honorary Secretaryship.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S OFFICE ALLOWANCE 1920—1921. Proposed from the Chair:—"That the same rate of Office Allowance as paid in 1920 be included in the accounts for 1920—1921, though the late Honorary Secretary had, it is to be regretted, been unable to carry out the specific object for which he had been granted an increase in 1920—1921," *Carried nem. con.*

1921—1922. Proposed from the Chair:—"That the Honorary Secretary's Office Allowance for 1921—1922, as entered in the accounts, be and hereby is agreed to and passed," *Carried*.

1922—1923. Proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke Seconded by Mr. W. H. Reed:—"That the Honorary Secretary's Office allowance for 1922—1923 be fixed at Rs. 50 per mensem." *Carried nem. con.*

ACCOUNTS. 1920—1921. Proposed by the President:—"That the accounts of the Association for 1920—1921 as now drawn up in corrected detail, with the consent of the then Honorary Secretary, by the Sub-Committee elected for the purpose, be and hereby are passed." *Carried nem. con.*

1921—1922. Proposed from the Chair:—"That the accounts as presented by the Honorary Secretary for 1921—1922 be and are hereby passed subject to the auditor's subsequent examination" *Carried.*

COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS DIRECT BY THE U. P. A. S. I. OFFICE. Proposed from the Chair:—"That the arrangement to have the collection of subscriptions direct by U. P. A. S. I. Office be confirmed." *Carried*

LABOUR COMMISSION'S REPORT:—Proposed by Mr. C. H. Godfrey Seconded by Mr. W. H. Reed:—"That this Association places on record its grateful appreciation of the public-spirited and self sacrificing action of the three gentlemen who carried out the onerous work entailed by the Labour Commission, and trust that at the Annau General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. practical and lasting benefits to the Planting Community of Southern India may materialize from the information so disinterestedly collected by them." *Carried Unanimously.*

INCORPORATION. Suggested from the Chair that a recommendation to the incoming Committee be hereby recorded:—"That the registered address of this Association be altered from Kalasa to c/o The Chikmagalur branch of the Bank of Mysore Ltd." *Carried.* Further, "that the question of transferring the Association's Current Account to the Bank of Mysore be considered at the same time." *Carried.*

MANURIAL EXPERIMENTS WITH CRUSHED LIMESTONE. Decided that as members have not been circularised on this subject up to date, they should be so and the matter brought up at the next meeting.

SOUTHERN INDIAN PLANTERS BENEVOLENT FUND. Proposed:—"That this Association become a Patron of the above Fund and that the Honorary Secretary is hereby empowered to write to the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. to this effect, and to pay the necessary donation, namely Rs. 1000, as soon as he hears from the Secretary accepting the above proposal. The necessary funds to meet this expenditure being obtained by reducing the amount placed by this Association on Fixed Deposit." *Carried.*

COORG AND MYSORE MOTOR MACHINE GUN CORPS. The Secretary was instructed to reply to the Honorary Secretary of the Bababudin Planters' Association letter dated 26—2—22 accepting his suggestion,



INVALID MEMBERSHIP OF AN ESTATE. Proposed from the Chair:--  
"That this Association places on record its confirmation of the action of the Committee with reference to the invalid Membership of the Yellagode Estate, and hereby empowers the Honorary Secretary to return to the present manager of the Estate monies accepted in error by the Honorary Secretaries in 1919/20 and 1920/21." *Carried.*

SANDERSON WARD REPORT AND ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE FOR 1922 /23. Mr. C. H. Godfrey read his report. Mr. N. Kirwan kindly consented to act as the representative of this Association for 1922/23.

Resolved that our representative on the Sanderson Ward Committee be asked to arrange a meeting, in cooperation with the S. M. P. A, with the Dewan to press the matter of the urgently needed repairs to the Ward.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE ON KADUR DISTRICT BOARD. Mr. F. I. Morgan was elected.

ELECTION OF DASARA REPRESENTATIVE. Noted that a meeting for this purpose must be held in June.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS for 1922—1923. Proposed by Mr. E. W. Fowke and Seconded by Mr. E. L. Poyser, Mr. C. H. Browne was elected President, and Mr. H. Browne Honorary Secretary. *Carried nem. con.*

COMMITTEE:—Messrs. E. L. Poyser and E. W. Fowke.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE. Messrs. H. Browne and E. W. Fowke.

AUDITOR. Proposed by Mr. F. I. Morgan Seconded by Mr. E. W. Fowke:—"That Rs. 50 be paid to the auditor of the accounts and that Mr. H. Watson be asked if he will kindly audit the accounts." *Carried.*

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

M. A. de WECK,

Hon. Secretary.

## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

EXTRACTS FROM PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL  
- COMMITTEE HELD AT CALCUTTA ON 17TH MARCH 1922.

CHAIRMAN:—Mr. T. C. Crawford, M. L. C. was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Association.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:—The Hon. S. J. Best was unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman.

1921 CROP:—The London Committee drew attention to the fact that the Indian Trade Commissioner had reported the tea crop of Northern India for 1921 as being  $247\frac{3}{4}$  million lbs., as against the figure of 242 million lbs. reported by the General Committee. The Indian Trade Commissioner's figure had been supplied to him by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and it was suggested that the matter should be enquired into with a view to ascertaining the reason for the difference.

The General Committee directed that the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence should be addressed on the subject.

OCEAN FREIGHT AGREEMENT:—A letter dated 2nd March from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce announced that the tea rate for March would be £ 2—11—3. This had been intimated to members as usual, and the information had been cabled to the London Association and to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

DOOARS RECRUITING ORGANISATION:—A letter dated 4th March had been received from the Secretary, Assam Branch, Indian Tea Association, enclosing a copy of a resolution on the above subject which had been passed at the annual meeting of the General Committee of that Branch held on 1st March. This resolution was in the following terms:—

That in the opinion of this Committee the proposal to admit new Dooars and Terai members in the Tea Districts Labour Association on the terms suggested will prove most detrimental to Assam recruiting and that therefore the suggested scheme be not approved. That such scheme might not meet with any opposition if the Dooars and Terai recruiters work on the same terms and conditions as the Assam recruiters. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Secretary, Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, the Secretaries, Tea Districts Labour Association and the Chairman, Assam Labour Board.

The Committee noted this resolution but as the question involved was one which concerned primarily the Tea Districts Labour Association—to whom the Assam Branch has sent copies of the resolution—they directed that the present letter should be acknowledged and recorded. The matter had, in point of fact, been raised at the annual general meeting of this Association by the Chairman of the Assam Branch and as then suggested he had brought it up again at a meeting of the Tea Districts Labour Association, when the criticisms put forward had been replied to, and the General position explained by the Chairman.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 12 OF 1922. (2nd-15th April).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at headquarters during the week and will remain there till the Easter holidays.

2. SAMPLES FOR ANALYSES. May I once more call attention to the fact that *all samples for analyses* should be sent direct to the *Government Agricultural Chemist, The Agricultural College, Coimbatore Lawley Road P. O.* Samples sent to me while I am in camp, often lie in my office for days while the covering letter is forwarded to me, attended to and sent back with orders to transfer the sample to the Government Agricultural Chemist. Much delay would be saved by those who wish to have samples analysed, if they would forward them direct to the Chemist.

If my special advice is wished for on the result of any analysis a separate letter should be sent me stating what is wanted. I get copies of all analyses made for planters by the Government Agricultural Chemist, forwarded to my office.

For a list of the analytical fees charged, see *Planters' Chronicle*, Volume XVI, page 707.

3. COLLETOTRICHUM COFFEANUM. In my weekly report No. 8 of 1922. I published a note on this disease. The fungus has since been again identified on some material sent to the Imperial Mycologist at Pusa, (Mr. W. MacRae of pious memory) for his museum. He says he also finds *Cercospora coffeicola* on some of the leaves. On one Estate in Coorg, an experiment is being tried of sweeping up the mulch of leaves under the Coffee each year, and burning them. The idea is to check leaf disease. This practice is, no doubt, agriculturally unsound, since the Coffee benefits largely from the manurial value of this mulch and there is a large loss of valuable organic matter and nitrogen lost by burning it. Some work carried out in my laboratory years ago, showed that on the average, the mulch of leaves added 109 lbs. of nitrogen per acre. per annum. Still, the effect upon fungus attack of the coffee thus treated is of interest. The planter carrying out the experiment claims that it has a decided effect upon leaf disease, despite the smallness of the area, and the fact that it is infected by spores carried into it from surrounding coffee. Certainly, *Colletotrichum* was less prevalent in this area the last time I saw it. More experiments conducted on a larger scale with very careful observations of the results are necessary before the practice is adopted generally, but other planters interested might try. In this connection, the Imperial Mycologist, Mr. MacRae, writes me as follows:—

"The experiment of sweeping up leaves against *Hemileia*, reminds me of a case in Munich. In the Englischer Garten, the leaves of *Acer pseudo-platinus* (Sycamore) were swept up as they fell, and the leaf-spot caused by *Rhytisma acerina* was entirely absent, whereas in the other parks and woodlands about Munich, this was not done and the disease was very prevalent. The sweeping was done purely from an aesthetic reason, probably because the garden was near the Palace, but it showed the effect on the fungus. It is true that the ascus stage of *Rhytisma* developed on the leaves after they fell, but there is little evidence that the ascospores carried over the disease more than the conidia."

#### 4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (26th March-1st April.)

At the COFFEE EXPERIMENT STATION, blossom showers are anxiously awaited. Cloudy weather was experienced during the week, but two cents of rain only were received, though a shower of over an inch fell in the neighbourhood at some distance from the Station. The hybrid plots have been hand-weeded to free them from Spanish needle. Permanent Shade is being regulated and very large and old shade trees which are doing damage to the Coffee are being gradually removed.

At the TEA EXPERIMENT STATION, rain is badly needed and there is a shortage of water. The flush is, in consequence, poor, 595 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 6.48 acres. The labour is being utilised for repairing and terracing drains.

At the RUBBER EXPERIMENT STATION, MOOPLY, a small shower of three cents was recorded. A girth census of the trees has been completed.

At TENMALAI, hot weather and hot winds prevail and no work is in progress, except the deepening of the well.

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

[*The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.*]

#### KENTS ARABICA.

Sir.—As it is acknowledged that the seeds of Mr. Kents' plants give at least two distinct looking trees; viz, one with erect, and the other with drooping branches I think it would greatly aid those who are experimenting with this plant's seeds, if Mr. Kent would explain what he means by "true to type" when he writes in your issue of the 11th March.—I find that the percentage of plants true to type increase with each generation.



Mr. Kent dates his first generation as 1917. I therefore think he must be in error in saying he has now five generations, or is it that he counts the seeds planted each year, produced from the original parent plant, as a generation? As otherwise with a plant like coffee that requires at least two years to produce flower, it seems hardly possible that five generations can be reached in the same number of years.

If Mr. Kent will forgive my saying so, it does not follow that his plant is not a hybrid, because of the three reasons given by him in the last para of his letter, as a true hybrid will have all these characteristics.

Yours faithfully

"NABBU."

#### NILGIRI NURSING HOME.

Dear Sir,

May I again trespass on your space in connection with the Nilgiri Nursing Home?

During the past three months it has constantly been brought home to me how necessary the Home is to Planters and what a hardship it is that it is so impossible to use.

The rates for Non-Subscribers are prohibitive, and when these are compelled to use the Home the amount of the bill may well be enough to cripple a young Planter for months.

Efforts have been made to induce the Committee of the S. I. N. A. & L. A. N. I. to reduce the fees to Non-Subscribers but without effect, their argument apparently being that :—

1. In order to have credit to pledge in engaging Nurses, maintaining the Homes, &c, they must be sure of a certain income, and their only certain income is the money paid down in advance by their Subscribers.

2. That the Institution and Homes are for the good of the people of this Presidency generally, and that all of the community who possibly can ought to support them by their subscriptions.

3. That if a person does not subscribe he has no good claim to benefit by the Institutions, and, if he wishes to avail himself of the advantages they offer, he must pay through the nose for making use of that which he has done nothing to found or support. (These arguments have never been put to me in so many words but they are the impressions left by many conversations with members of the committee.)

There is a good deal in this contention, and I think it must be accepted that any one who is likely to want to use the Home, and this is a possibility for all of us, must subscribe.

Of course the Rs 25—0—0 subscription carries not only admission to the Home on very reasonable terms but also the services of the Lady Amphyll Nurses in the Subscriber's own home, anywhere in South India, at any time equally cheaply.

It seems to me that the best way is not for individual Planters to subscribe personally, but for the Planting Associations to subscribe for the whole of their members. In doing this it would be noted that all those Planters who were members of P. A's. in Southern India when they "joined up" are entitled to the privileges of Subscribers without payment and need not be paid for by their Associations.

Personally I don't see why we should not go a step further and work out some scheme of medical assurance, also through the Associations, by which Subscribers could get medical attendance, as well as Nursing at reduced fees.

This would naturally take some time to work out and can wait, but the right to use the Home at a reasonable cost is a necessity which may become urgent at any moment to any one.

Yours faithfully,

F. MILTON,

#### U. P. A. S. I. RE-ORGANISATION.

Sir,

We have all heard arguments for and against the above matter. I suggest that we stick to facts and look ahead.

We have had the Labour Department for some time and each man can judge whether it is worth his while to pay the present subscription to the U. P. A. S. I. as a whole. It is undeniable that many do not think so, and that the Special Commission appointed to enquire into the work of the Labour Department supported this view in their recommendation No. 5, "Membership to the various departments shall be optional"

Men may hold themselves bound legally, or otherwise, to support the U. P. A. S. I. up to 1924, but I fear that the end of the present five years' agreement will see the end of the U. P. A. S. I., or the abolition of much of its establishments, owing to widespread resignation. Can this not be avoided?

As one of the oldest members of the Nilgiri Planters' Association and a supporter of the U. P. A. S. I. at its inception, I, and many other Planters in all districts, wish to continue our membership, but we will not do so if the above No. 5 recommendation is not carried out. It simply means that those who want a thing must pay for it. If they take advantage of a temporary arrangement to make others pay it can only result in the parting of the ways at the end of the arrangement. I am not concerned to argue for or against the Labour or any other Department that may be instituted, but put matters on a fair footing, and do it *now*, so that things may be running smoothly in 1924, Have subscriptions to keep up the U.P.A.S.I. as the Planter's official recognized organ as it used to be, and let those who want side lines have them by all means, on paying for them themselves.

Yours faithfully,

E. G. WINDLE.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "U. P. A. S. I.," Coimbatore).

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1922.

125s/-per cwt. Market Steady.

### AUSTRALIA'S TEA TRADE.

Just about this time last year it will be remembered that the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce suggested that the Governments of India and Ceylon should approach the Commonwealth Government of Australia with a view to obtaining preferential treatment for British Grown Tea imported into Australia. As was pointed out in the Report of the U. P. A. S. I. Executive Committee last year, though the Government of Ceylon did actually approach that of Australia, the Government of India would make no move pending the receipt of the recommendations of the then proposed Indian Fiscal Commission. We have yet to learn what these recommendations may be, but in the meantime the following figures are interesting in that they indicate that teas from Java are seriously displacing Indian and Ceylon Teas in the Australian Market.

Comparing the Imports of Tea into Australia for the seven months July to January last, inclusive, with the same period of the year previous, the total imports from all countries have increased by no less than 37%, and this would show that Australia's consumption of tea is very rapidly increasing, and it would appear that British Grown Tea is not benefitting by this rapid increase.

We have on hand only the figures of the imports for the month of January 1922, but these alone unfold a sorry tale:—

	January 1922.	January 1921
Total Imports ...	4,810,599	2,521,279
From Java ...	2,751,667	635,903
„ Ceylon ...	1,317,351	937,825
„ India ...	709,447	891,292
„ Other countries ...	32,034	56,259

Naturally, to take only a single month's imports may not show a fair comparison, but even allowing for shipments being 20% above the average of the seven months, and therefore possibly abnormal, the percentage differences between the same month of 1921 are sufficiently staggering:—

Total Imports show an increase of	...	90 per cent
Imports from Java „ increase of	...	330 „
„ „ Ceylon „ increase of	...	40 „
„ „ India „ DECREASE of	...	20 „
„ „ Other countries show a decrease of	...	75 „

This means that in spite of the rapid increase in consumption of Tea in Australia, practically the whole of this increase has been met by supplies from Java, while the supplies from all other sources have, to all intents and purposes, remained stationary.

We pause to wonder if Australia is really consuming the whole of this large increase of Tea imported. Her re-exports are, at present negligible. Is Java “dumping” more tea into Australia than can be consumed? It is possible, but time alone can show, and if by any chance it is so, the Australian Tea market will collapse badly.

## MARKET REPORTS.

**TEA:**—The brisk demand for medium and common teas, which was marked during the first two weeks of March, eased off slightly during the ensuing week. Other-wise the market is firm.

**COFFEE:**—East Indian deliveries have been readily disposed of at fully previous prices, some marks averaging as much as 140 sh. There has been slightly less demand for Costa Ricas, but all others are selling steadily at former rates. The local market is firm as regards price, but not much business has been transacted. It is confidently expected that towards the end of next month the local demand will increase.

**RUBBER:**—Continues very quiet, and, during the week ending 25th March, arrivals exceeded deliveries by nearly 300 tons and prices dropped well below 8 d.



## REGISTRATION OF DOCUMENTS IN MALABAR DISTRICT.

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### CERTAIN CONCESSIONS.

*The following proclamation has been issued by Government :—*

It has been brought to the Notice of the Government that on account of the closing of the undermentioned registration offices in the Registration districts of Calicut and Palghat during the Moplah riots and on account of the disturbed condition of the locality several persons were not able to get their documents presented for registration within the time allowed by section 23 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908. In all such cases the documents could be presented and registered in the offices which have since been reopened within the time allowed by section 25 and 34 on payment of the requisite fines which are subject to a maximum of ten times the proper registration fee in each case. In view of the extraordinary circumstances of the case, the Inspector-General will make a general remission, under section 70 of the Act, of the difference between the fine leviable and the amount of proper registration fee in the case of documents which are presented under section 25 within a month from the date of this Proclamation. In the case of documents presented after that date no such concession will be shown.

#### CALICUT DISTRICT.

Arikkod.  
Kondotti.  
Kalpakancheri  
Tirurannati.  
Vandur.

#### PALGHAT DISTRICT.

Walluvanad.  
Mannarkkhat.  
Vilayur.

( By order of the Government Ministry of Education Registration. )

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

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*The following are extracts from the Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts for the month of March 1922:—*

In this district [the Kanan Devan Hills,] a root disease of the Tea due to the fungus *Rosellinia arcuata* is very troublesome on some estates. This disease is directly connected with the rotting roots of Cinchona in the soil. Some of the Tea is planted in land

which used to be under Cinchona, while in other cases, Cinchona was at one time planted through the Tea and afterwards cut out. Whenever this has happened, at a period varying from 5 and 10 years depending on the climatic conditions, the fungus begins to kill the Tea. It is particularly difficult to deal with because the Cinchona roots are distributed all through the soil. Only when all these have been removed will the trouble be got rid of. Work has been done in this direction for several years now under my advice, and in some cases, a decided improvement is to be seen. Where the Cinchona was planted in definite rows through the Tea, these rows have been trenched and old roots taken out and burned and the soil has then been well limed. This procedure has met with success and the spread of the disease has been checked.

Owing to the prevalence of this and other fungus causing root diseases of Tea, the practice of burying prunings has had to be abandoned. This is a pity as not only is a lot of organic matter lost by burning the prunings instead of burying them, but we have had to give up burying prunings in contour trenches on steep slopes and thus gradually forming terraces, a most effective way of preventing soil erosion. The organic matter destroyed by burning the prunings can be replaced by growing green dressings and this is being systematically done. Analyses have been made of typical prunings and of the green dressings used, so that we know just how much must be put back in the soil and how much green dressing is needed for the purpose.

On many estates in this District, cover crops of various sorts are being used for the sole purpose of preventing soil erosion. A great deal of success has attended these experiments and in especial *Oxalis corniculata* has been found a most useful weed for the purpose. It does no harm to the Tea, is of low growth so that grass and bad weeds can be pulled out of it and it keeps the soil in place most efficiently.



Arrangements are being made with the Government Mycologists to conduct a new series of spraying experiments with coffee to protect it from Leaf disease. The object of these experiments is to test different spreaders and adhesives and see if weaker strengths of Bordeaux Mixture can be effectively used and the process thus cheapened. At present, though spraying is known to be effective, the difficulties in the way of carrying it out over a large area are considerable. These difficulties are partly due to the cost, but also due to lack of labour at the time of year when spraying should be done and lack of water. More definite results are needed about spraying of Coffee, however, and these experiments now planned should supply them. The trials will be made on an estate in Coorg, and operations will begin about the middle of May.



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**WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE  
MEPPADI CLUB ON APRIL, 5TH, 1922.

PRESENT:—Messrs. S. H. Powell, B. Malcolm, T. P. Gauld, R. W. M. Hay, B. D. Darkin, H. R. Bowling & B. M. Behr, Ag. Hon. Secretary.

VISITORS:—Mr. A. Dunn.

Mr. Powell was voted to the Chair.

The Proceedings of the General Meeting of 8th February, 1922 and Extraordinary General Meeting of 1st March were confirmed.

The Ag. Hon. Secretary presented the Accounts and read the following report:—

Mr. Gwynne, our very efficient Honorary Secretary for two years, left for England on well earned leave at the end of last month, and I was pressed to carry on till this, the Annual, Meeting. I don't think, therefore, that it is up to me to make the regular Annual Report, but a short one ought to be on record.

During the past year there have been seven ordinary General Meetings and three Extraordinary General Meetings. The acreage subscribing to the Association for 1922-23 is—Tea 9340 acres; Coffee and Pepper 1079 acres, 10419 in all, and there are two personal members. 116 acres of Rubber 167 of Pepper and 499 of Tea are now classed as "abandoned" but new tea has come in.

SEASON & CROPS. The season has been a fairly normal one with good rain in April and May and a light Monsoon, with the exception of a heavy burst at the end of July. The market for our chief product, tea, has been strong but but that for Rubber and Pepper is so low that some of the acreage under them has been abandoned.

LABOUR. We had the same disastrous shortage in April, May and June. The Labour Department, as at present constituted, can give us no help in recruiting from new areas. The Labour Commission visited us in January last in turn with other Districts. Their Report is unanimous that if we want more labour and a better labour department, we have got to pay for it. The Ceylon Planters are now considering asking their Government to enforce a Cess sufficient to raise Rs. 1,000,000 per annum for recruiting in S. India. If this goes through we shall be still more up against it.

Of local and Coast labour, we can get plenty at certain seasons, but their quality is poor. An endeavour to come to an agreement with regard to the wages of this class of labour has so far failed to materialise, but the subject will be brought up again today.

INCORPORATION, This is held up by the refusal of some of those interested to allow their Superintendents to sign the articles of Association.

MOPLAH REBELLION. We are fortunate in having passed through this without much material damage though the disorganisation of our transport to Calicut and Postal service made things very difficult at times.

We were mobilised at the beginning of the trouble, every man in the District joined up and we were supplied by H. Quarters, Wellington with Rifles and 2 Lewis Guns. There is not the least doubt that our demonstrations and Patrols, which were made as far as Calicut, were greatly responsible for keeping the trouble out of our District.

Mr. ABBOTT. We have to regret the departure of Mr. Abbott, his place will be very hard to fill. He has for a great many years been the leading light of our Association, sometimes as Honorary Secretary, and sometimes as Chairman. He has represented us at most UPASI's meetings, and has three times been chosen as Chairman of that Association. He has also been our Planting member on the Legislative Council.

This Association is very greatly in his debt and we wish him and Mrs. Abbott many years of happiness in their retirement.

The Accounts were passed and the Hon. Secretary was thanked for getting out a Report at such short notice.

It was resolved that the subscription be continued at 3 annas per acre for 1922.—1923.

RATES OF PAY OF LOCAL LABOUR.—A resolution was passed unanimously by those present and it was resolved that it should be circulated to Members not present for their confirmation.

LABOUR COMMISSION'S REPORT.—This was postponed to the next Meeting.

INTER-DISTRICT SPORTS.—Resolved that the following Committee be appointed to choose teams and arrange other details. Messrs. Eyre, Powell and Davies.

As no member present would accept the Hon : Secretaryship, the Meeting was adjourned to the 12th instant.

With a vote of thanks to the chair, the Meeting terminated.

(Signed) S. H. POWELL

Chairman.

(Signed) B. M. BEHR,

Ag. Hon. Secretary,



## WYNAAD PLANTERS ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th APRIL, 1922.

IN CONTINUATION OF THE MEETING OF THE 7th INSTANT.

PRESENT :—Messrs. B. Malcolm, J. E. Bissett, T. P. Gauld, E. E. Eyre, W. G. Graig, H. R. Bowling, D. B. Vincent, B. D. Darkin, and B. M. Behr, Ag. Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Malcolm was voted to the Chair.

Read Proceedings of the last Meeting.

LABOUR RATES OF PAY.—Read letters from Messrs. Eyre, Bissett and Hudson approving of the Resolution passed at the last Meeting. Also letter from Mr. Craig saying he did not agree.

After some discussion Mr. Bissett agreed to talk over the matter with Messrs. McBain and Craig.

The Proceedings were then confirmed,

Mr. Darkin proposed and Mr. Bissett seconded that Mr. Behr be elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Carried.

Mr. Bissett proposed, and Mr. Eyre seconded that Mr. Hay be elected Hon. Secretary. He has kindly consented to act.

LABOUR COMMISSION'S REPORT.—After some discussion this was postponed to the next Meeting.

U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL COMMITTEE.—The Chairman and Hon. Secretary were elected as Members.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

(Signed B. MALCOLM,  
Chairman

(Signed) B. M. BEHR,  
Ag. Hon. Secretary.

**U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR DEPARTMENT.****ENQUIRY CASES.**

The Superintendent, labour Department, S. Kanara, wishes to bring to the notice of subscribers the desirability of sending applicants for small advances of, say, Rs. 100/-to 300/-direct to him with a letter, when enquiries are to be made concerning their capabilities as labour suppliers. Many of these applicants for maistries work are merely ambitious coolies, and it is therefore difficult to obtain reliable information in their villages, in which they probably go by another name, and own no property.

A personal talk with the applicant, and an enquiry in which he accompanies the agent, will bring to light many facts for and against him, which it is impossible to obtain by enquiries in the village in the absence of the applicant himself. Provided enquiries are satisfactory the money for advancing the man may be sent to this office, when the business will be put through for the estate concerned. This system will also save time, and much correspondence.

F. W. WINTERBOTHAM.

**U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR DEPARTMENT.****LIST OF AGENTS.****COIMBATORE DIVISION.**

No.	NAME.	ADDRESS.	POST OFFICE.
1.	C. R. Kandaswami Naidu.	Fish Bazaar Street.	Coimbatore,
2.	V. Rajulu.	Brazier's Street, Sultanpet.	Palghat.
3.	A. K. Venkatasubba Iyer.	3, Mariamman Koil Street.	Pollachi.
4.	K. N. R. Sanchandra Rao,	Kottur.	Malayandi- patnam.
5.	V. Rangaswami Iyer.	Srinivasapuram West.	Tiruppur.
6.	M. V. Siva.	—	Perundurai.
7.	K. Raghavendra Rao.	24, New Street.	Erode.
8.	T. S. Anna Pillai.	20, Aalamaram Street.	Karur.
9.	G. N. Nagendram Chettiar.	—	Namakal.
10.	S. Nathaniel Ebenezer.	Suramangalam,	Salem.
11.	N. M. Desigam.	—	Palni.
12.	P. K. Balakrishna Menon.	"Parvathi Vilas," Blathikolangara.	Eranhipalam, Via Calicut.
13.	A. P. Narayana Menon	—	Manjeri.
14.	E. S. Kunhikandan.	2nd Class Hotel.	Tirur.
15.	A. Srinivasa Rao.	Hanumantharayan Koil Street.	Gobichetti- palayam
16.	S. S. Krishnaswami Iyer.	Hanumanthapuram.	Dharapuram.
17.	P. S. Unni Nayar.	—	Ottapalam.



## PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION.

1.	S. Manickam.	Therkumayilodai.	Pannikulam.
2.	A. Shanmugam Pillai.	Gengaikondan.	Gengaikondan.
3.	A. Sodalamuthu Pillai.	Ellanayacanpatty.	Ellanayacanpatty
4.	K. Chockalingam Pillai.	Bazaar Street	Palamcottah.
5.	Puthiavan Pillai.	Manoor.	Manoor.
6.	S. M. Adaikalam Pillai	Vicramasingapuram.	Vicramasinga- puram.
7.	C.A. Chidambaram Pillai	Alwarkurichi	Alwarkurichi.
8.	S. Kumaravel.	Vallam.	Vallam.
9.	K. S. Sankaralinga Nadar	Kadayanallur	Kadayanallur,
10.	S. K. Pandian Pillai.	Anaikulam.	Surandai.
11.	Joseph David.	Kottarakara.	Kottarakara.
12.	M. R. John	Chithambarapuram	Kalakad
13.	Isaac Moses (Chief Ag)	Nagercoil	Nagercoil.
14.	K. N. A. Santhanatha Mudlr.	Karunkulam.	Therku Karungulam.
15.	A. Thangiah Nadar.	Kudankulam.	Via Radhapuram.
16.	P. Diraviam Pillai.	Sidambarapuram.	Koothanguli.
17.	S. Arumanyagam Pillai,	Mulagumood.	(Kuzzithura) Mulagumood.
18.	P. K. Krishna Oonithan.	Varkala.	
19.	Sinnan. (Kottar Agent.)	c/o Upasi-	Nagercoil
20.	M. K. V. Savarimuthu Moopnar.		Koilpatti.

## SOUTH CANARA DIVISION.

1.	G. P. Rasquinha.	Parry's Arrack Depot	Beltangadi.
2.	M. Brank.	Main Road.	Kanhangad.
3.	K. Mahomed Isahac.	Do	Karkal.
4.	J. D. Lobo.	Do	Kasargode.
5.	F. L. Pereira.	c/o Upasi Office.	Mangalore.
6.	B. Rajeeva Rao.	Sub Agent.	Mangalore.
7.	K. Sheik Mahmood.	Main Road.	Moolky.
8.	P. J. Soans.	Opposite Hospital.	Mudhidri.
9.	A. Coelho.	Main Road.	Puttur.
10.	K. Sheik Mahomed.	Do	Sullia.
11.	P. Thejappa Shetty.	Do	Udipi

## SRIVILLIPUTTUR DIVISION.

1. A. Suppan Chettiar	No. 949 East Street	Bodinayakanur
2. V. Thirumalasami Iyengar	No. 454 Middle Street	Uttamapalayam
3. G. Gurusami Naidu	Bodithasanpatti	Andipatti
4. B. Subbiah Pillai	Chuttram Street	Usilampatti
5. T. Kondiah Naidu (K. D. H. P.)	No. 252 West Masi St.	Madura
6. W. S. Ramasamy Iyer	No. 2890 New Street	Thirumangalam
7. L. Kurava Thevar	No. 25 South Street	Peraiyur.
8. V. Perumal Konar	No. 1256 Meenachipuram	Watrap
9. S. Theetharappa Mudaliar	No. 252 North Car St.	Srivilliputtur
10. C. R. Mannar Naidu	Viswanathapuri	Sivagiri
11. K. M. S. Hamid Sahib	Agasthiswarar Sami Koil St.	Puliangudi
12. L. M. Kondan Chettiar	No. 2028 Thelunguchetty St.	Sankaranai- narkoil
13. L. M. Kandasami Chettiar	No. 2029 Do.	Do.

## MYSORE DIVISION.

1. D. M. John Hanumanthan	Main Street	Kollegal
2. Thimmiah	Kantraj Urs Road	Mysore
3. N. Kaliah	Near temple	Nagamangala
4. T. K. Kempe Gowda	Main Street	Krishnarajapete
5. H. R. Abdul Wahab	Near Post Office	Hassan
6. H. S. Abdul Rahaman	Bangalore Road	Tumkur
7. Venkatapathiah	Bangalore Road	Mandya
8. C. Mayanna Gowda	Near Temple	Chamarajanagar
9. C. Venkataramiah	Main Bazaar	Gundlupet
10. M. Sathananthan	Nanjangud Road	T. Narasipur
11. H. D. Basappa Gowda	Main Street	Arakalgud
12. M. Sreenivasaiah	Bangalore Road	Channapatna
13. T. Ameerulla Khan	Near Railway Station	Davangere
14. M. Boriya Gowda	Near Post Office	Kunigal
15. Mahamad Yacoob	24 Blackpalli Street	Bangalore
16. H. Thammiah	Naidu Street	Chickmagalur
17. P. B. Gnanapragasam	Near Railway Station	Nanjangud
18. S. D. Hanumiah	Shimoga Road	Tarikere
19. Devaputra	Main Street	Yelandur
20. Linga	Near Travellers' Bungalow	Malavalli
21. Kadiah	Sivachar Street	Channarayapatna.



## RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for March 1922.

### IMPORTS.

FROM	FEBRUARY.			Two MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
Malaya ...	2,244	4,168	6,165	6,307	11,294	9,505
Ceylon & Br. India ...	1,469	2,192	2,379	2,940	4,058	5,252
Dutch East Indies ...	354	1,338	929	935	2,679	1,758
Brazil and Peru ...	319	197	2	630	510	428
Other Countries ...	22	113	171	117	238	392
<i>Total Tons</i> ...	<u>4,408</u>	<u>8,008</u>	<u>9,646</u>	<u>10,929</u>	<u>18,779</u>	<u>17,335</u>

### EXPORTS.

TO	FEBRUARY.			Two MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
U. S. of America ...	4,096	134	3,398	9,755	312	9,023
Canada ...	85	—	285	124	11	934
France ...	1,121	223	804	2,740	467	1,858
Belgium ...	135	70	321	229	184	537
Italy ...	136	45	250	324	205	386
Germany, Austria ...	735	792	101	1,507	1,198	354
Other Countries ...	201	428	208	327	691	474
<i>Total Tons</i> ...	<u>6,509</u>	<u>1,692</u>	<u>5,367</u>	<u>15,006</u>	<u>3,068</u>	<u>13,566</u>

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and  
Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the  
month of FEBRUARY.

		LANDED, FOR FEB.	DELIVERED, FOR FEB.	Stocks 28th FEB.		
				1922	1921	1920.
LONDON—	{ Plantation	4,685	4,288	67,466	59,034	19,606
	{ Other Grades	8	27	157	405	523
Liverpool	{ Plantation	66	709	7,141	4,845	1,480
	{ Para & Peru	310	240	1,130	1,052	110
	{ Other Grades	—	—	443	456	377
<i>Total London and Liverpool.</i>		<u>5,069</u>	<u>5,264</u>	<u>76,337</u>	<u>65,792</u>	<u>22,096</u>

**SOUTH INDIAN PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.**

Subscriptions &amp; Donations for the year 1921—1922.

District	No. of Subscribers	Amounts		
		Rs.	As.	Ps.
Anamalais	43	585		
Bababudins	7	80		
Central Travancore	18	215		
Coorg	5	60		
Kanen Devans	34	395		
Mundakayam	9	418	8	
Nilgiris	16	530		
Nilgiri-Wynaad	11	260		
North Mysore	5	60		
Shevaroyes	1	10		
South Mysore	22	465		
South Travancore	18	180		
West Coast	8	550		
Wynaad	12	580		
U. P. A. S. I.	9	130		
Firms & Donations	13	867	8	
	231	5386	0	0

Rs. 110 has been received in advance for 1922—23. The above compares with Rs. 4,545-14-0 received from 185 subscribers in 1920—1921.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

*[The "Planters' Chronicle" is not responsible for the opinions of its correspondents.]*

**"KENTS ARABICA COFFEE."**

Sir,

In reply to NABBU'S letter in your issue of 15th instant, I have never dated my 1st generation plants as 1917. I mentioned that Mr. Kirwan's seed was picked from them in that year. My first plants are dated 1909, I bred from them in 1912 and 1913 only, though I sold seed up to 1917. All further generations are bred from the preceeding one, i. e. 2nd from 1st, 3rd from 2nd, etc. I have always admitted that the origin of Kent's Arabica is obscure. I was under the impression that a true Hybrid required many generations of fixing before it gave, (1) an even sample, (2) a lack of malformed and empty beans, (3) and thorough germination of seed, but am open to correction on this point. It was certainly so with Liberian-Arabica Hybrids of which I had some generations a few years ago, but eventually eliminated. By true to type I mean possessing unusual vigour, immunity to leaf diseases, heavy cropping power. Those are the characteristics that make my plants stand apart from ordinary Arabica. There are two types of plants the upright and the drooping branches, I am still unable to say which is the better, as both have the characteristics and do equally well.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd)—L. P. KENT



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CALBE).

London, 21st April 1922.

126s/-per cwt. Market steady.

## COLD VULCANIZATION OF RUBBER.

At a meeting of the Institution of the Rubber Industry held on the 7th March, Mr. S. J. Peachey, of the Peachey Process Co. Ltd., read a paper on "Cold Vulcanization," which, together with the full discussion which ensued, is reported by the "*India Rubber Journal*." The following is a brief resume of Mr. Peachey's very full explanation of the new Vulcanization Process which bears his name. As will be seen from the following remarks the whole process seems to be a comparatively simple one and there does not appear to be any reason why the manufacture of rubber goods should not be successfully undertaken in India by means of cold vulcanization, whereas, so far, the ordinary process of vulcanization by means of heat has not proved entirely satisfactory in the Tropics. The process was evolved in a College Laboratory, and as such had been dubbed an "academic" process, but it has already been proved that on a large scale this method of manufacture has industrial possibilities far greater than was anticipated in the experimental stages.

The process is based on the fact that when rubber is treated alternately with the two gases, sulphur-dioxide and hydrogen sulphide, the gases are readily absorbed, and reacting in the material, produce an active form of sulphur which combines with rubber at ordinary air temperature, resulting in thorough vulcanization. The process is applicable not only to Rubber in its ordinary dry form, but can also be applied to rubber in solution. If a solution of rubber in benzol or naphtha containing hydrogen sulphide is mixed with a solution of sulphur dioxide in benzol, viscosity begins to increase, and after a short time the solution sets into a jelly, which after evaporation of the solvent becomes vulcanized rubber.

The two gases are cheaply and easily produced and the vulcanization takes place at ordinary atmospheric pressure and without the aid of heat. This latter feature renders possible the vulcanization of rubber incorporated with materials which cannot satisfactorily be employed in conjunction with rubber when the hot process is applied. Further it renders possible the use of a large variety of Coal Tar dyestuffs, lacs, etc., which are destroyed by the hot process but which are not affected in the least by the gas treatment.

A rubber solution suitably treated with the two gases may be poured into a mould, allowed to remain for a short time, and taken out as a permanently shaped jelly, which on drying shrinks uniformly and without losing shape, producing a vulcanized rubber article. This solution process is also used for cementing rubber to rubber and rubber to leather, the surfaces to be joined being merely coated with a solution of rubber containing the two gases, pressed together and allowed to stand for a short time. The vulcanized joint thus produced after the evaporation of the solvent gives an adhesive strength which has been proved to be greater than that obtained by any other method. Broadly speaking, practically any type of rubber goods manufacture can be carried out by one or other of the following treatments, or a combination of both. These are (1) The Chamber or dry gas treatment (2) the two solution process.

#### THE CHAMBER PROCESS.

This process is carried out in a Chamber lined with Aluminium for choice, as this metal is not corroded by the gases either singly or conjointly. The rubber, or compound containing rubber, preferably in the form of sheets of not too great a thickness, is exposed to an atmosphere of sulphur dioxide for about ten minutes. A current of air is then blown through the chamber to sweep out the gas, and this draught is continued for a few minutes to remove the layer of gas concentrated on the surface of the rubber. The chamber is then filled with hydrogen sulphide and the material left in contact with this gas for thirty minutes, at the end of which period vulcanization is complete. The degree of vulcanization is governed by the time of exposure to the sulphur dioxide gas, the hydrogen sulphide being applied in excess to avoid any free sulphur dioxide being left in the material.



This process is only applicable to thin sheets of material, the best results obtaining in thicknesses of from 1.9 to 3.5 mm. Such sheets may be built up like plywood, after vulcanization, to any desired thickness by the two-solution process. The application of this process has been chiefly used in the production of floor and wall coverings, sole leather, embossed leathers, felt roofing material, etc., all of which are produced by compounding rubber to the extent of 30 per cent with about 70 per cent of various waste materials. As an example of the cost of such mixings the case of sole leathers may be taken, which contain 30 per cent of rubber and 70 per cent of leather "buffings". The cost of materials per 100 lbs. of product is :—

	s.	d.
30 lbs. of rubber at 1 sh.	30	0
70 „ of leather waste at $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	3	0
100 „ of product	33	0

or about 4d. per lb. Labour and on-costs bring the price up to about 6d. per lb. Good sole leather costs now 4s. 6d. per lb. and, what is more, it has been proved by numerous actual wearing tests that 1 mm. thickness of the rubber-leather compound outwears 2.5 mm. of new sole leather.

The Chamber process is applicable to proofed fabrics, whether of cotton, silk or wool, and does not affect the colour of any materials dyed with good coal tar dyestuff. Dipped goods such as teats, surgeons gloves, and surgical goods generally, are conveniently cured by the chamber process, retaining their colour and transparency, and in fact Mr. Fordyce Jones of the Reliance Rubber Co. has succeeded in producing glass clear transparent rubber goods by the cold process which hitherto had been impossible. The Chamber process has also proved a success in vulcanizing raw crepe sheet, such as is being now made use of for tennis and golf shoe soles and mats of all descriptions, making them resist a temperature of 100 degr. C. perfectly. This should be of particular interest to planters in India who are turning their attention to this class of goods.

### THE TWO-SOLUTION PROCESS.

This process is actually the direct vulcanization of Dissolved Rubber. Briefly it may be demonstrated by taking a quantity of rubber solution, say a 10 per cent solution of moderately well masticated rubber in benzole, saturating this solution with hydrogen sulphide and then mixing with a solution of sulphur dioxide in benzole. After a thorough mixing by shaking the liquid gradually thickens and becomes more viscous, and ultimately it sets to a stiff jelly which is quite free from tackiness, and has sufficient coherence to enable it to be handled quite freely. Further it is quite insoluble and non-miscible with any further addition of solvent. It is in fact a gel of vulcanized rubber, and on eliminating the solvent by evaporation it shrinks to a

mass of vulcanized rubber. The vulcanization may be made practically quantitative to yield any desired coefficient of vulcanization from, say, one up to fifteen. Practically any benzene soluble Coal Tar dyestuff may be introduced into the rubber solution yielding coloured gels and rubbers in great variety, and the colours are quite unaffected by the process.

A machine has been patented for the continuous production of moulded articles to be used in conjunction with a solvent recovery plant, and the result has been the production of hot water bottles, tubing and hose from specially constructed moulds.

One application of the two solution process, is called the "wet reforming" process. Ground waste rubber is mixed with a quantity of rubber solution, corresponding to about 5 per cent new rubber on the weight of the waste, previously saturated with hydrogen sulphide and mixed with the necessary amount of benzene sulphur dioxide solution. The mixing is effected in a suitable machine and the wet mixture is then pressed into moulds. Vulcanization of the binding solution takes place in about 20 minutes after which time the moulds are opened the contents allowed to dry, and a perfectly consolidated mass of reformed rubber is obtained with high tensile strength and excellent physical properties.

Further the two solution process is used for tyre repair work. A rubber solution saturated with hydrogen sulphide is mixed with one tenth its volume of a 2.4 percent solution of sulphur dioxide and is used to cement canvas duck to itself or to rubber. A coating of this cement is applied to each surface to be joined and allowed to dry for 20 minutes. A second coat is then applied and after two minutes the surfaces are pressed together for a couple of hours to allow the solvent to evaporate. The result is a perfectly vulcanized join. Similarly rubber and leather surfaces may be joined for boot soles, etc., and in this case the adhesion is so perfect that no stitching or nailing is ever necessary. Complete tyres are now being built up by the two solution process which eliminates operations in the ordinary method of making tyres which cause loss of strength. The road tests of these tyres is now in progress and it is fully expected that the result will show increased life of the tyre combined with lower construction costs. So far solid tyres have not been made, as these would require so much building up, and how to deal with large masses of rubber by the cold process has still to be discovered.

The lecture closed with a description of the plant in use at the Company's factory at Willisden.

It is quite natural that manufacturers view this new process with a certain amount of suspicion, but there is no doubt that the new process has proved itself better for many classes of goods than existing methods. American manufacturers are reported to be experimenting with it in many works, and it is fairly certain that they will soon be turning out cold vulcanized goods long before the conservative English manufacturers make use of it.

Rubber goods Factories are a much needed want in India, and the Peachey process gives far more promise of success in this country



than the ordinary process. It is to be hoped that some enterprising firm will start this new industry for India. There is plenty of rubber in India for the country's needs, and all that is required is to ascertain how and where the necessary gases can be turned out cheaply.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 13. (9th—15th April).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left Coimbatore for Ootacamund on 13th for the Easter holidays. After the holidays Mr. Anstead goes on tour in the Nilgiris and will make Ootacamund his headquarters to write annual reports, etc., till about 7th May. Letters will, as usual, be forwarded from his office, but his Nilgiri address will be "The Savoy Hotel, Ootacamund."

2. CROP AT THE RUBBER EXPERIMENT STATIONS. The following comparative figures of the percentage of wet sheet and wet scrap obtained at the Rubber Experiment Stations last season, are of interest:—

Mooply Rubber Experiment Station	Wet sheet	85.35 per cent
	Wet scrap	14.65 per cent
Tenmalai Rubber Experiment Station	Wet sheet	89.58 per cent
	Wet scrap	10.42 per cent
A neighbouring Rubber Estate	Sheet	82.15 per cent
	Scrap	17.85 per cent

Mooply represents tapping from April to January, and Tenmalai only September to December.

This year, the Annual Reports of the different Planting Experiment Stations will be written up and published separately in pamphlet form, as we now have enough data to make them of interest.

3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (2nd—8th April).

No rain has yet been received at the *Coffee Experiment Station*, and blossom showers are anxiously awaited. Unless they come soon the crop is likely to suffer. Regulation of the permanent shade is being attended to. Plots of five cents each of the following varieties of green dressings have been sown in anticipation of the rain, for demonstration and comparative study—*Cassia hirsuta*, *Tephrosia candida*, and *Desmodium rufescens*. A plot of *Crotalaria semperflorens* has withstood the hot weather fairly well.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, the drought still continues and is being felt very much by the Tea. There is a shortage of water at the Station, and rain is very badly needed. Naturally, under these conditions, there is a poor flush and only 593 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 8.34 acres. The terracing work of the drains was continued as labour is available.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Mooply, dry hot weather conditions still prevail and little work can be done.

At *Tenmalai*, 1.10 inches of rain fell during the week, and this was very welcome. Advantage was taken of it to sow cover crops.

(Signed). RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## BABABUDIN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING HELD AT CHIKMAGALUR ON 6—4—22

PRESENT.—Messrs. S. H. Dennis (Chairman,) A. C. W. Denne, F. Hugonin, H. Kerr, W. H. F. Lincoln, W. P. Scott, W. R. Thomson, G. R. Oliver, R. O. Oliver, S. J. Wilson & N. Kirwan (Hon. Secretary.)

Notice calling the Meeting was read. Minutes of the preceeding Meeting were read and confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.—The Chairman said that in view of the present Annual General Meeting, closing the new financial year of the Association, being held so shortly after the last, he would omit his address and proceed to the accounts.

ACCOUNTS.—The Honorary Secretary placed the Accounts to March 31st. before the Meeting.

The Association's Investments amount to Rs. 3500/- and final balance to Rs. 5842—5—7. Excluding a sum of Rs. 1047—12—0. due to the U. P. A. S. I. which is covered by outstanding subscriptions amounting to Rs. 2033/-.

A letter was read from the Member in arrears saying this would be paid at an early date.

The accounts were passed subject to Audit by Messrs. A. C. W. Denne & E. H. Thompson.

MANURE SHED AT BIRUR.—The following amendment to the circulated resolution was proposed by Mr. N. Kirwan and seconded by Mr. G. R. Oliver.

"That a sum of Rs. 4000/- be sanctioned from Association Funds for the purpose of erecting a Shed at Birur Station. Interest at the rate of 5% per annum to be paid by the registered users of the shed."

*Carried.*

Messrs. A. C. W. Denne, G. R. Oliver, S. J. Wilson, W. P. Scott, W. R. Thomson, H. Kerr. S. H. Dennis agreed to subscribe up to 200/- each, and Betay Khan Estate 100/- making 1500/- over and above the 4000/- to be advanced by the Association, for the purpose of erecting the walled shed.

MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.—Mr. N. Kirwan was elected Member.

OFFICE BEARERS.—The following were elected.

President. Mr. G. R. Oliver.

Hon. Secretary. Mr. N. Kirwan.

Gen. Committee U. P. A. S. I. Messrs. G. R. Oliver & N. Kirwan  
Committee. Messrs. A. C. W. Denne, F. Hugonin & H. Kerr.

Labour Committee. do do do

NEW MEMBER.—Proposed by Mr. N. Kirwan and Seconded by Mr. G. R. Oliver.

"That Mr. C. H. Godfrey (Wogger & Yellikodige Estates) be elected a member of the Association."

*Carried*

N. KIRWAN

Hon. Secretary.



**SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT. U. P. A. S. I.**  
**EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF RUBBER MYCOLOGIST**

**SECONDARY LEAF FALL: DISEASE OF HEVEA**

When making some observations in connection with this disease a few months ago I noticed that the foliar organs of certain trees which, from the manner in which they held their leaves, were commonly designated "disease resistant varieties," exhibited in a marked degree the familiar petiolar lesions and all the other characteristic symptoms of *Phytophthora Meadi* attack. The shoots also were in all cases conspicuously affected, the amount of "dieback" shown by some trees being considerable. During the course of my visits to estates I subsequently examined large numbers of trees which had experienced no leaf fall, and in every case, found them to be similarly attacked.

A noteworthy feature of the attacks on these trees is the severity of the wounds, compared with those met with on leaves which have been thrown off by disease during the rains. The leaves cast off during the rains have frequently little more than a trifling puncture which in itself can cause little functional derangement. In the case of the trees insusceptible to abnormal leaf fall, on the other hand, the wounding is often so extensive as to seriously interrupt the passage of materials to and from the leaf.

In some cases scars extend from one-third to two-thirds of the way around the leaf stalk, while frequently a single leaf stalk may have three or four of such gaping wounds. As late as February last I came across trees still in foliage, in spite of the presence on large numbers of the leaves of the severe wounds just described.

The extent to which these so-called "immune" trees have been affected by disease will be seen from the figures below, which are the outcome of a count taken on a tree which retained its foliage throughout the season.

<i>Number of leaves examined</i>	...	...	450
Infected in one place	...	...	100
" two places	...	...	74
" three "	...	...	34
" four "	...	...	11
" five "	...	...	9
" six "	...	...	5
" seven "	...	...	7
" eight "	...	...	2
" nine "	...	...	3
" eleven "	...	...	1
" twelve "	...	...	1
Total number affected	...	...	247 out of 450
			55%

In the above count all doubtful cases were left out.

In position and character, the wounds exhibited by the leaves of trees, which are not susceptible to leaf fall, resemble those met with on the leaves of trees which have been defoliated by *P. Meadi*. The dark blob of congealed latex is usually to be seen, whilst behind the wound, there is the familiar dark discoloration extending far into the wood which is usually associated with the attacks of *P. Meadi*. Microscopic examination of numerous sections in the neighbourhood of these wounds showed that numbers of the cells were clogged with gummy residues. Tyloses (e. g., abnormal ingrowths from neighbouring cells through the communicating pits in the walls into the wood vessels which prevent conduction) were also occasionally met with in the water conducting vessels. Numerous living hyphae were observed in the superficial layer of cells and in the space between the two lips of the wound, but despite extended search, no traces of living *Phytophthora*, or any other fungus could be discovered in the cells of the inner cortex, though bodies which might have been disorganized fungal hyphae were plentiful. Owing to the lateness and dryness of the season however the absence of any recognizable live *Phytophthora* in the tissues is not surprising. All the leaves examined were on the verge of being thrown off by the process of normal leaf fall and were in consequence too dried up to afford much sustenance to a moisture-loving parasite such as *Phytophthora*.

Although the wounds and other symptoms on the leaves of these trees, which are not susceptible to abnormal leaf fall, do not differ, except in degree, from those met with on leaves which have been thrown off by *P. Meadi* during the monsoon, it was thought desirable to try and establish their identical origin in the two cases.

Pieces of the affected tissue in the vicinity of the larger wounds were sterilised externally and cultures started. Growths developed in each of the tubes, all of which proved to be impure, and to contain a variety of fungi.

In order to ascertain whether *P. Meadi* was admixed with these fungi, a number of *Hevea* shoots were obtained and placed with their ends dipping in weak solutions of nutritive salts underneath damp bell-jars. Leaf stalks of these shoots were then inoculated with drops of water containing fungi from the cultures above mentioned, controls being arranged at the same time.

At the end of a week no disease had developed on any of the infected petioles,

Parallel with the above, attempts were made to inoculate with the fungi obtained from leaf-fall-resistant trees, healthy leaves which were still growing on the trees. For this purpose glass tubes were slipped over leaf and leaf stalk, and the space within maintained in a moist condition.

The inoculations which were made in this manner were more successful. Out of four inoculations, two developed the characteristic symptoms of Secondary Leaf Fall Disease, one of them only slightly however.



Although further inoculation tests are desirable, from the fact that in two instances leaves had been successfully infected, and the symptoms of Secondary Leaf Fall Disease produced on healthy leaves by fungi derived from wounds in the leaves of supposed "disease-resistant" trees and from other observations, there can be no doubt but that the wounds in both cases are attributable to the same cause e. g., infection by *P. Meadi*.

#### IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A "DISEASE-RESISTANT" STRAIN OF HEVEA?

In view of the foregoing therefore, the term "Disease-Resistant Variety" as applied to some example of *Hevea* in relation to *P. Meadi* must be set down as a misnomer. Certain trees are, as can be seen on any estate, "resistant" or "insusceptible" to abnormal leaf fall, but *not* to the disease which is responsible for abnormal leaf fall. No trees appear to be resistant to shoot infections, and "dying back" of shoots can be observed on all trees. It is to be doubted, indeed whether a *Hevea* tree could be discovered either in India or any other country which, under favourable external infection conditions, would be resistant to attack by *P. Meadi*. The alleged disease resistant varieties, contrary to previous belief, are found upon examination, not only to have experienced more attacks than trees which become defoliated early in the monsoon, but also to have suffered greater anatomical damage.

It seems very remarkable that leaves which exhibit the extensive wounds described above—wounds which have often involved the destruction of half the living conductive elements as well as the blocking of numerous water vessels in the sector affected, should still remain on the trees and retain their healthy green colour right to the end of the season, whilst from other trees, leaves which have only received a trifling puncture, and such slight anatomical damage that their functions cannot have been impaired thereby, are cast off in shoals early in the monsoon.

From such facts as these, it is evident that the insusceptibility of certain *Hevea* trees to abnormal leaf fall is not due to the possession of any superior anatomical structure (such for instance, as a thicker cuticle or smaller stomata, which variations have in a number of other plants been found to be associated with comparative resistance to their specific disease). It is also clear that the actual anatomical damage wrought by *P. Meadi*, and any adverse influence on function this may have, cannot be looked upon as the cause of leaf fall. Leaf fall would appear rather to be due to some toxin or poison excreted by the fungus into the tissues. The physiological disturbance set up by the poison are similar to those experienced by the tree at the time of normal leaf fall, and evoke a similar response in the shape of the formation of the scission layer between the leaf stalk and branch

which leads to the fall of the leaf. Some trees are apparently so violently affected by this poison that they throw off their leaves immediately. Other trees for some obscure reason, but in virtue possibly of the presence in the cell sap of substance which neutralise the poisons, are enabled to withstand the shock, and despite repeated attacks, and considerable functional derangement from the tissue disorganization and vessel clogging caused by the invading fungi, hold their leaves right through the season.

Were the trees, which are prone to leaf fall, indiscriminately scattered throughout an estate irrespective of soil conditions, one might attribute the insusceptibility to leaf fall to the possession by certain trees of some hereditary or specific character lacking in others. We have, however, already had occasion to note that the distribution of such trees follows, for the most part, nutritive variations in the soil, and from this we have favoured the view that the capacity to resist leaf fall is less a natural endowment than a nurtural acquisition.

This view is not, of course, the only deduction which can be drawn from the facts of distribution, and it is still possible to maintain that, in certain trees, there is a hereditary predisposition to develop, under the stimulus of appropriate external factors, substances which neutralise the worst effects of leaf fall disease. The presence in the substratum of a definite concentration of one or the other of the well-known mineral nutritive salts may be one of these factors. From this standpoint, the relative failure of trees to hold their leaves when growing on washed-out slopes would be attributed to the lack of the external factor which is the necessary complement for the effective development of the tree's resistant qualities. The loss, by soil wash, of this factor may be held to have led to the breaking down of the resistant qualities formerly displayed. This standpoint, if correct, would destroy any prospect of preventing leaf fall generally, and, short of selective breeding, one could only expect by cultural methods to bring about an improvement in a few favoured trees.

While experiments may show that the factors, which make for resistance to leaf fall, are much more complex than one now imagines, one hopes that the simple view first stated will prove to be the correct one, and that it may be possible, by manuring, to supply the missing link. The fact that trees can retain their leaves in a functional condition, in spite of extensive wounding by *P. Meadi*, certainly points to the desirability of trying to control the disease by soil treatment, or by measures which build up the tree to withstand the initial shock of disease, rather than by protective measures against infection such as spraying, and is a good augury for the success of manurial experiments.

H. ASHPLANT.



## MARKET REPORT.

Messrs. Leslie & Anderson write to us under date the 30th March as follows:—

**COFFEE.** The quantity of Coffee offered at Auctions this week has been moderate in the absence of large supplies of Costa Ricas, and for this reason we consider the shipments ex "CLAN MACQUARRIE" have come forward at a fortunate time. The competition for good to fine coffees from the Home Trade continues good, but a large proportion of the coffee now arriving is really below average quality and rough looking in many cases. We think it is surprising how well the market is absorbing the shipments at current high prices and any hesitation there is at present among Buyers is due, we think, chiefly to finance. We must not lose sight of the fact that the value of coffee, offered each auction, amounts to upwards of £50,000/-, and unless Buyers can dispose of their early purchases it is difficult for them to finance further business. This seems to us the crux of the position of the market at present for there is not going to be any abundance of fine mild coffees this season.

**CARDAMOMS.** There is little fresh to report. The bold Mangalore type are still in request.

**TEA.** The supply catalogued for Auctions this week was rather larger than in the past few weeks. There was a moderate demand at irregular prices. For good to fine teas prices were maintained, but medium teas and common and lower grade teas were sold at a decline of a  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.

**BEBBER.** Since our last report only a minimum of business in rubber has been done and with very slight variations in price. October / December varying from 8  $\frac{7}{8}$ d. to 9  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and spot rubber from 7  $\frac{7}{8}$ d. to 8  $\frac{1}{8}$ d.

Stocks show an increase of 100 Tons on the week's figures.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

**INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS TOURNAMENT.**—We have now received the detailed results of the matches played between the High Range and the Anamallais on the courts of the latter early in the month.

### SINGLES.

A. H. Dixon (High Range) beat A. C. Cotton (Anamallais)  
2 — 6 ; 6 — 5 ; 6 — 0.

H. L. Pinches (High Range) beat E. G. F. Maule (Anamallais)  
6 — 0 ; 6 — 5.

### DOUBLES.

H. L. Pinches } (High Range) beat E. G. F. Maule } (Anamallais)  
W. F. Inman } Dennis }

6 — 4 ; 6 — 4.

The High Range thus won by 5 points to *Nil*.

The only other match of the first round was to have been the West Coast *Versus* Mundakayam. Unfortunately the former were unable to arrange to play and hence Mundakayam had a "Walk over"

The second round of the tournament is to be played off during May and June. The matches to be contested are:—

Wynaad	<i>Versus</i>	Nilgiri-Wynaad
Nilgiris	,,	U. P. A. S. I.
Central Travancore	,,	Mundakayam
High Range	,,	Shevaroyes

The respective teams should get into communication with each other as soon as possible to arrange dates and places for their respective matches.

**RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.** At the meeting of the Council of the Rubber Growers' Association on Monday 3rd April 1922, Sir Stanely Bois, the Chairman, made the following statement as to the deliberations of the Colonial Office Committee.

The Committee were so concerned at the seriousness of the position of the plantation Rubber Industry that they promptly made up their minds in favour of Governmental action. The British Colonial Authorities are known to be favourably disposed to take suitable legislative action to safeguard the Industry and, as stated in the House of Commons, discussions are still proceeding with the Netherlands East Indies Government, as to whether and on what lines they are prepared to co-operate. There is strong ground for believing that the British Government Authorities concerned would welcome a conference in London with the Dutch on the subject of the form which such legislative action should take.

**S. I. P. BENEVOLENT FUND.**—Subscriptions to this fund for the current year fall due this month, and the Secretary has asked us to request all members to send in their subscriptions either direct to him or through District Associations as early as possible. The appeal made through all District Associations last January to get Estates to subscribe to the fund has, we regret to learn, not met with much support so far. We would draw the attention of the leading firms who are managing agents of groups of Estates to the fact that in Ceylon practically every estate subscribes to their Benevolent Fund, in addition to personal Subscriptions, and this forms a large proportion of its income.

If this were done in South India, the income of our Fund would be more than doubled, and its ability to help all cases of need liberally would be assured.

**THE INDIAN FACTORY ACT.**—Copies of Act II of 1922, which amends the Indian Factories Act of 1911, are available from the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, 8, Hastings Street, Calcutta at As. 3 ps. 9 per copy. Intending purchasers should, if they do not already possess it, also procure a copy of the original Act XII of 1911 as the amending Act only refers to the Sections amended, and does not give the full text of the Act as it now stands.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 28th April, 1922.

122s/-per cwt. Market steady.

## COFFEE IN B. E. AFRICA.

We have recently received the report of the Advisor for coffee, Department of Agriculture, Nairobi, (Mr. A. D. le P. Trench) for the year ending 31st, March 1920. The total area under coffee in the Colony and Protectorate of Kenya is stated as being, approximately, 22,000 acres, of which about one-third is three years old or under. More than half of the total area planted is in the Kyambu District, the remainder being scattered through ten surrounding districts. During the year under review record crops were obtained in most districts and the total output of coffee from the Protectorate was the highest on record.

The Government Experimental Farm is situated at Kabete, where half-acre plots of coffee grown from seed from various sources are being planted out for the purpose of selecting the varieties best suited to the country, and it is with interest we note that Jackson's Hybrid and Kent's Arabica (the latter is styled "Hybrid" in the report) are both to find a place in the Experimental Farm.

Coffee planters in Kenya are troubled with diseases and pests to a certain extent as will be seen from extracts from the report given below, but we also learn from it that there are certain districts where hail storms are frequent, and, that during the numerous thunder storms, coffee bushes being destroyed by lightning is not of uncommon occurrence. Fortunately for us in India hail storms are infrequent, though we suppose all old coffee planters have at one time or other, in their years of work, have experienced hail on coffee which has caused severe loss on occasions, and we can well sympathise with our brethren in Kenya if such storms are as frequent as appears to be implied in the Report. We cannot remember ever having seen or heard of a coffee bush struck by lightning, though shade trees and buildings have suffered in this way very occasionally, still, however startling it may be, we cannot imagine such events doing damage to coffee on any appreciable scale.

Coffee cultivation in Kenya is reported to be progressing rapidly, and many new clearings have been made as a start to planting up large acreages. Extensive reserves of land are reported to be suitable for coffee, and are waiting to be taken up. In any case we do not think that the increase in area under coffee can be very rapid owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour, and labour is particularly difficult to obtain during the one time of year it is essential, that is during the crop season.

Up to the present very few Estates have adequate machinery to cope with their crop, but it is interesting to note that several estates have installed mechanical dryers, and these are recommended as producing a more even sample as well as proving a saving in labour. As in India, most of the coffee is sent away from the estate in "parchment" to Coffee Cleaning Mills, but there are a few estates which do their own Hulling and Grading and pack their coffee ready for Market. On some estates these processes have not been done as well as can be done in special curing works, and this is shown by the fact that one consignment sent to market contained no less than 1 per cent of unshelled beans besides a certain quantity of parchment husk. This lot had probably been cleaned with a hand huller which is admittedly an unsatisfactory machine.

We quote the following paragraphs from the report with reference to *Leaf Disease* and *Thrips*, which appear to be the Kenya Planters' two chief troubles:—

"*Leaf Disease* was discovered on 64 plantations, and in nearly all cases where no spraying or manuring had been carried out for the last two years the outbreak was bad.

During the season of 1918-19 no spraying was done; the season was very dry and *Leaf Disease* was noticed in a mild form, and it was therefore not deemed necessary to take precautions.

I regret that this was so, as, in my opinion, if spraying is not regularly carried out in certain districts, there is a greatly increased danger of a severe epidemic occurring. The best results that have been



obtained were from fields which had been heavily manured in the 1918-19 season and sprayed in 1919.

The beneficial effects of heavy manuring and regular spraying go far towards establishing the value of carrying out this work, even at the high cost of material.

I inspected two plantations, one in Koru and one in Fort Ternan, and found the coffee trees in an extremely poor condition and the leaves covered with Leaf Disease. The soil and climatic conditions which exist are favourable to encourage the spread of this fungus, but at the same time, if proper steps had been taken and the coffee had been kept in a good state of cultivation and sprayed regularly, this could have been avoided. In both cases action was taken by the Department to remedy what might have been a source of disease to neighbouring plantations."

"*Thrips*. I am glad to report that this pest was not serious this season, neither did it do any material damage. This is due to the favourable weather conditions which existed throughout the year. (A conservative estimate in tons of coffee entirely damaged and lost through this pest last season would be over 100 tons, valued at £ 60=£ 6,000).

In April an outbreak occurred in Kyambu, consequently I carried out an experiment, dusting a few affected acres of coffee with one part sulphur and two parts lime. The dusting was done at 6. a. m., midday, and 5 p. m. on the 28th. April. The dusting did not kill Thrips by contact for over a period of 16 hours, neither did it appear to be effective, but at the same time, it cannot be considered a fair trial because a few days after the experiment was carried out it was noticed that Thrips was gradually disappearing from the neighbouring plantations and also on areas which were not dusted on the plantation when the experiment was tried.

This pest appeared again on plantations in several Districts during February of this year, but fortunately directly the rains started in March it was noted that Thrips disappeared.

Thrips increase rapidly during a drought, but on the advent of the rains and cold weather they do not thrive."

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### RUBBER ESTATE ASSISTANTS' AGREEMENTS.

In the Court of appeal at Kuala Lumpur, on February 16th, an interesting test case involving the rights of assistants on rubber estates, whose agreements have been "determined", to leave pay and passage money was decided. The plaintiff in the case had had his case met by his late employers (the Linggi Plantations, Ltd.) but some thirty or forty other agreements depended on the result of trial. The form of agreement in all cases was the usual one for four or five years. Points in this agreement are:— (1) that the company has the right to determine the agreement at any time on giving three months' calendar

notice; (2) that the assistant has not this right; (3) that three months' salary may be paid by company at time of determination of contract in lieu of notice; (4) that six months leave of absence on half-pay shall, if found convenient, be granted by the company to commence from such date during the terms of the agreement as the company shall decide; (a second-class single passage is also to be provided, and a return passage if the assistant returns at the end of the period to the Company's service either to complete the old or to start on a new agreement); (5) that if the company does not find it convenient to grant such leave of absence it shall, in lieu thereof, (provided the assistant has observed his part of the agreement) pay the assistant on the "expiration" of the agreement a sum equal to one half of the salary received by him during the last six months of the agreement, and also provide a second class single passage home. The Appeal Court's decision was that the judge of the Lower Court had been right in coming to the conclusion that the assistant had no enforceable claim for salary in lieu of leave or passage until "expiration" of the agreement. Determination of the agreement had not the same effect as "expiration". The fact that this form of agreement does not prevent any company from getting rid of an assistant just before the end of his period of engagement by giving him notice, and depriving him of leave and leave pay, was adversely commented on by the Court. (*Indian Rubber Journal*.)

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### INCOMETAX ACT 1922.

The new Income tax Act came into force with effect from April 1st 1922. The object of amending the Act was to consolidate the law relating to Income tax and Super tax, to improve the phraseology and arrangement of the Old Act where necessary, and to remove doubts, ambiguities and anomalies.

It is proposed gradually to Organise a separate self-contained Income tax Department, and to relieve the Revenue Department of all work connected with Income tax. All returns and other communications relating to income tax matters in the Madras District should be addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Income tax, Old High Court Building, North Beach Road, Madras.

The rates of tax are not embodied as hitherto in a Schedule appended to the Act, but will be fixed annually by an Act of the Legislature as in England. The adjustment system is abolished except that a final adjustment is to be made, in the year 1922-23, on the basis of the income as finally ascertained for 1921-22. The assessment hereafter will be made strictly on the income of the previous year. The result of this will be that businesses earning a taxable income in the year 1921-22 will pay income tax twice on the income of the year 1921-22. A final assessment (adjustment) will be made for 1921-22 on the income of that year, and also an ordinary assessment under the new Act for the year 1922-23 will be made on the income of the same year. This is an anomaly inseparable from the change from one basis of assessment to the other,



All private employers are required by the New Act to deduct income tax from the salaries of their employees and to send a return of tax so deducted to the Income tax Officer.

Section 3 provides that income tax shall be levied in each year on the total income for the previous year of every individual, company and firm, provided that an assessee shall not be taxable in respect of :—

- (a) dividends that he receives as a shareholder in a company if the company has been assessed to income tax,
- (b) his share of the income of a firm if the firm has been assessed to income tax, and
- (c) insurance premia and sums paid to secure an annuity or as contributions to certain provident funds.

All such sums (a), (b) and (c) are included in calculating total income, that is, they affect the rate at which the individual is taxed.

By section 13 it is now made clear that income is to be calculated for the purposes of the Act in accordance with the system of accountancy regularly adopted by the assessee, provided that the system is such that the results may reasonably be considered, in the opinion of the Income tax Officer, adequately to represent the assessee's income. If the Income tax Officer is not satisfied in this respect, he has discretion to determine the basis on and the manner in which the income should be computed. He has the same discretion if the assessee has not regularly employed any particular method of accounting. Consequently if the assessee regularly keeps his accounts according to the mercantile system of accounts, (taking into account book credits and debits—calculating on the "accrued basis") his income should be calculated according to that system. If on the other hand he regularly keeps his accounts on the cash basis, taking into account only actual and constructive receipts and expenditure) the income tax officer must calculate his income according to that system.

Under section 10 (1) & (6) depreciation on furniture is now allowed as well as depreciation on buildings, machinery and plant. It is no longer necessary that depreciation should have been actually debited in the accounts, and where there is no taxable income in any year or the taxable income in any year is less than the depreciation allowable, the claim for the whole or balance of depreciation may be renewed in subsequent year until it has been fully adjusted.

For the expression "house property" in the old Act the word "property" has been substituted in the New Act, and under section 9 (1) the word is defined to mean the annual value of property, consisting of buildings or lands *appurtenant thereto*, of which the assessee is the owner, excluding portions occupied for the purposes of his own business.

Premia paid in respect of the insurance of furniture, stocks or stores used for the purposes of the business are now allowed as a deduction, as well as premia in respect of the insurance of buildings, machinery and plant.

Section 24 (1) now makes it clear that, if an assessee sustains a loss under one head of income, he is entitled to have such loss set off against the income under any other head in the same year. Section 24 (2) provides that if the assessee is a Registered firm, and the whole of such a loss cannot be set off against other income of the *registered* firm, each member of the firm is entitled to have his proportionate share of the balance or excess of loss set off against his own personal income on which the tax is payable by him in the same year.

The cost of repairs to furniture is now allowed as a deduction as well as that of repairs to buildings, machinery and plant.

Where an assessee has borrowed money to buy securities, the interest on the loan may, under executive instructions, be set off against the income from the securities on production of a Banker's certificate as to the amount of such interest.

Section 49 provides that where a person, who has paid income tax in India, proves that he has paid income tax on the same income for the same year in the United Kingdom, and that the rate of relief allowed in respect of such double taxation in England is less than the rate of tax levied in India on the income, he is entitled to a refund of tax on such income at a rate equal to the difference between the India rate of tax and the rate of relief allowed in the United Kingdom, but not exceeding one half of the Indian rate of tax.

Section 2 (1) now makes it clear that the exemption in respect of agricultural income only applies where the land from which the income is derived is situated in British India. Income derived from the sale of produce by a cultivator or receiver of rent in kind is now exempt even if he keeps a stall or shop for the sale of such produce.

#### RATES OF INCOMETAX.

Rate:—

A. In the case of every individual, every unregistered firm and every undivided Hindu family:—

(1)	When the total income is less than Rs. 2000.	Nil
(2)	Do is Rs. 2000. or upwards	Five pies but is less than Rs. 5000, } in the Re.
(3)	Do is Rs. 5000. or upwards	
	but is less than Rs. 10,000.	Six pies but is less than Rs. 10,000. } in the Re.
(4)	Do is Rs. 10,000 or upwards	
	but is less than Rs. 20,000.	Nine pies but is less than Rs. 20,000. } in the Re.
(5)	Do is Rs. 20,000 or upwards	
	but is less than Rs. 30,000.	One anna but is less than Rs. 30,000. } in the Re.
(6)	Do is Rs. 30,000 or upwards	
	but is less than Rs. 40,000.	1 an. 3 ps. but is less than Rs. 40,000. } in the Re.
(7)	Do is Rs. 40,000 or upwards.	
		1 an. 6 ps } in the Re.

B. In the case of every company and every registered firm, one anna and six pies in the rupee whatever its total income.



## BUDDING OF RUBBER.

We reprint some extracts from a lecture on the Budding of Rubber given by Mr. T. H. Parsons, of Peradeniya at a meeting of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association held on 22nd April 1922, the full report of which was published by the "*Times of Ceylon*".

### PLANT BREEDING.

The object of applying the respective forms of reproduction to Hevea are, briefly, to increase the yield of latex in conjunction with a healthy and strong tree. Of the respective forms of reproduction, seed selection and vegetative reproduction apply to Hevea, and vegetative reproduction can for the purpose of this lecture be confined to budding. Members here today do not need telling that plantations of Hevea consist of many bad yielders and few good ones, and that by propagation from normal seed, a young plantation will again consist of many bad and a few good yielders and so on indefinitely. The natural high yielders of an estate can be found on an examination of their latex rings, and for this purpose investigations in Java have been undertaken for ascertaining the number of latex rings in the young budded rubber and is summarised by Dr. W. Vischer in "Communications of the West Java Experiment Station" as being extremely favourable to the budded plants.

It is now necessary to emphasise most forcibly the importance of knowing the latex-yielding capabilities of your mother trees, as a considerable time must necessarily elapse before reliable records can be obtained. This should be the preliminary stage of any experiments undertaken in regard to the required improvements mentioned above.

Experiments in Java on seed selection are already in hand, seed having been obtained and imported for breeding and hybridizing experiments and in the direction of seed selection and thinning. The length of time required, however, to breed a tree such as Hevea true to type, tends to rule this method out for present discussion here, though it must be remembered that seed selection should result in a most highly productive variety of tree, after a constant form that breeds true to type has been isolated and established. As before mentioned, however, the time that this would take, probably the third and fourth generation, is not conducive to immediate results by any means.

The second means of reproduction therefore is by vegetative reproduction, and in the form of budding, which concerns us at the present moment more than seed selection, because of the fact that results are seen and obtained in a much shorter space of time and particularly in the fact that there appears a greater certainty of transmitting the qualities of the parent by means of this vegetative form of reproduction.

Java has at the present moment many acres of budded rubber now 4 years old. The buds were obtained from known heavy yielders and on the theory mentioned above the vegetative offspring should be expected to reproduce the characters of its parent. Since, however, the product of *Hevea* is peculiar to itself, in the form of latex yield, it is possible that the expected results may be somewhat modified. From investigations up to the present, however, it is noted that there is sound reason to anticipate that budded rubber will result in all that is expected of it, and if so, no estate can hope in the future years, with the present type of rubber, to cope with this improved form of tree, and on this assumption it is obvious that the old estates who do not advance with the times must, necessarily, slowly but surely, go to the wall. The question as to the exact extent latex production is a hereditary character and also what relation may exist between the root of the stock and the budded scion in the eventual yield, should be definitely answered within a short time, when the tapping records of the plants budded in Java in 1917 are obtained.

#### OPERATION OF BUDDING.

The actual operation of budding and its preparations can now be described. In the first case care should be taken to obtain seed for the stock seedlings from your healthiest and high yielding trees. Those should be sown in nursery beds and later thinned out to approximately 18" apart. This will allow of accessibility when the budding operations commence. The stock seedlings should be large enough for budding purposes at from 12 to 18 months old, therefore seeds sown in August-September should be ready in the following August to January, which months have proved the most satisfactory months, so far, at Peradeniya for budding operations. The materials required will be a sharp budding knife, budding tape, and grafting wax. Ordinary cotton cloth answers the purpose quite well and can be cut to various lengths or widths according to the size of the stock budded. The grafting wax is composed of 1 part bees wax, 1 part tallow and 2 parts resin. The bees wax and tallow should be melted, adding the resin after it has been well powdered, and the whole stirred well. Soak the budding tape or cloth in the mixture whilst it is hot and hang up to dry for an hour or so, afterwards winding the tape or cloth around a stick. The waxed tape will thus keep of suitable consistency for a long time. Another preparation found to be satisfactory, where tried in the more rainy districts, is resin 4 lbs., bees wax 1 lb. and enough linseed oil to work well. Of the forms of budding it is generally recognised that patch budding is preferable to tee budding, a difficulty being experienced in the latter method in getting rid of the latex which exudes following the incision. Inverted tee budding, however, has its advantages. A description of these methods are given below, quoted from the Rubber Research Scheme (Ceylon) circular and published in the "Topical Agriculturist" for December, 1921, on the subject of budding and grafting of rubber.



The tee and inverted tee method of budding:—The method employed is to remove a piece of bark with bud required to be inserted into the stock and then to remove carefully the small portion of wood taken with the bark. In the bark of the stock into which the bud is to be inserted an incision, in the form of a T in T budding and the reverse in inverted tee budding, is made. The bark is then raised and the bud is gently pushed into the opening. It should be bound with waxed tape leaving only the tip of the bud exposed. At Peradeniya it appears that complete covering of the inserted bud for a few days may be desirable.

**PATCH BUDDING :—**In this case a rectangular piece of bark containing a bud is transferred into the stem from which a similarly shaped piece of bark has been removed. A small quantity of grafting wax is then smeared over the edges of contact and the bark then tied firmly with budding tape or strands of bark. After this, the whole should be covered with strips of cloth dipped in melted paraffin wax, as a further preventive against the admission of air and moisture. It is necessary that the bud should fit accurately the incision in the stock. During and subsequent to the operation shady conditions are necessary. It is necessary also to add that great care should be taken in removing the small portion of wood from the bud sheath as experience here has shown that unless great care is used the small bud will remain in the piece of wood discarded and an empty sheath is consequently put on the stock. The budding should be made as near ground level as possible. All cuts should be clean ones, and the operations should be carried out speedily and cleanly. After 14 to 18 days the bandages can be removed. If the operation has been a successful one the bud and bud sheath will show a healthy green and similar to its appearance at time of budding. After the bandages have been removed for a week the stock can be cut to within 3" of the bud joint, which will result in all the vigour of the stock plant being forced into the newly-attached bud. The parent tree from which the buds are obtained must obviously be of those known to be heavy yielders, free from disease, and the healthiest possible, and the buds will be located invariably on the previous season's wood. The numbers of buds the parent tree will furnish will depend of course on the size and age of the tree. A point to note is in regard to the fitting of the bud into the incision. It has to date been held that an accurate and tight fit of the bud sheath with the incision is essential. Mr. Nolthenius, in a translation of a recent article on bud grafting of rubber, states that there is no need at all for the patch to fit exactly in the incision, and that in Hevea budding the patch should be slightly smaller than the incision. The contention is that the main principle in budding or bud grafting is to see that the cambium layers are in absolute contact, the bark-union being a secondary matter. It also states that the advantage is, that if the bark of incision and patch do not fit exactly, there is room for the latex to run away so that coagulating under the patch as soon as it is pressed tight with the bandage tape, is prevented. This may be so, and if such is the case, bud grafting is so much the easier. In fact Mr. Roy

Bertrand mentions that he has had success with a discrepancy of no less than  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch between the edges of the bud sheath and the edge of the bark of the stock. It appears therefore that the difficulty and time wasted in getting a close and tight fit can be eliminated.

The right degree of pressure to apply when binding up the inverted bud with the tape is difficult to estimate, as to bind too tightly will damage the delicate cambium, whilst to bind slackly or loosely would allow outside conditions to effect the bud, and would not be waterproof. Another point to note subsequent to the budding operation is that the buds are liable to become damaged by mud splashed up by the rain. In order to avoid this the ground under the plants should be covered with straw, dried grass or dried leaves.

The buddings undertaken on September 13th, (budded with moderate sized buds, on patch system) have at last proved that the present system of budding is a correct one for Hevea. Of the twelve six were successful, these buds beginning to show growth about the middle of November and at end of year had attained a bud growth varying from 18" to 30." The height at present vary from 6' to 8 feet.

#### A FORECAST.

In conclusion I would quote a portion of a paper given to the Kajan District Planters' Association in Malaya recently by Major Gough on the effect budding is likely to have on the industry. He states: "As regards the effect bud grafting will have on the rubber industry if it is the success that is thought certain, trebled and quadrupled yield might make people wonder how the rubber will be absorbed. I do not believe there is any reason for panic. It is no use bud-grafting grown trees, and if you fell old trees and replant, the growth of the young trees will be very poor on most washed-out soils of the average rubber estate. What is left therefore, for old established companies to do? They should certainly, first of all, bud any newly planted clearings which they are lucky enough to possess, before the trees grow too large and then they should turn their attention to their reserve jungle and open it up for bud-grafting. If they have neither young clearings nor jungle, they had better begin to look about and see if they cannot get jungle ear-marked for them (against the day when the Government again grants or sells lands). *No estate can hope to be still prosperous eight to ten years hence, with only ordinary rubber* if competing against Dutch and other estates with areas producing rubber at perhaps 3d. per lb., but an estate with an appreciable area of budded rubber could tap that at a good profit and, at the same time, could devise schemes for extracting high yields of rubber at a profit by intensive tapping of divided up areas of their ordinary rubber, in rotation. In some such manner all estates might continue to show a good profit indefinitely.



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SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.  
RUBBER TAPPING EXPERIMENTS.

We often hear discussions about tapping systems, daily as compared with alternate day tapping, half section as compared with a third and so on, but in South India, at any rate, any conclusions we have arrived at are based largely on personal opinion and not on a record of actual figures obtained over a period of years. Experiments that have been carried out are usually vitiated by the fact that the system and trial have not been carried out long enough, or worse still, have been superimposed on some other system, and we are all familiar with trees criss-crossed with scars in which several systems have been carried out and the tapping goes into bark of all ages.

Now, what is really required to compare any two systems is that they should be started together on the same date on trees of the same age, and if possible, on virgin bark and carried out side by side year after year, till all the virgin bark has been used up. Suppose, the systems are on a nine years' renewal basis. The first time the two systems can be really compared in their entirety is at the end of this nine year period. Then the yields and the costs for the nine year period can be totalled and one system really compared with the other. Next, we repeat the two systems over renewed bark, and the next time they can be properly compared is at the end of 18 years when all the virgin bark has been taken off once and the renewed bark once.

Of course, tentative comparisons of great value can be made during the progress of such an experiment, but had we such series of figures for a period of 18 years they should be of immense value to us.

With the idea of getting such a series of figures, a few tapping experiments are being started this year on the Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai. These results will be vitiated, no doubt, by the fact that trenches and drains have been cut and so on, and that the trees are not of quite even growth. Still, it is the best material we have at present, and as had been pointed out once before the conditions closely imitate those on the average estate. We look to the Mycological Station to carry out more carefully designed and systematic experiments with young rubber. Meanwhile, figures and results obtained at Tenmalai will be of great value and the irregularities can be eliminated by comparison with the new series of experiments at the Mycological Station. On the Rubber Stations, we are out for the sort of results that may be expected from the average estate where the rubber has been dug and filled with catch pits and drains thus cutting roots, and where the soil has been eroded and so on.

The standard system with which to make comparison is being taken as that of one cut on one third section tapped daily from May to January. The first section is opened at 18 inches from the ground,

reckoning on a bark consumption of an inch a month or 9 inches a year. The first section will thus last two years. The next section is begun at 27 inches from the ground and will last 3 years and the third section the same. In the 9th year, we tap the 9 inches above the starting point on the first section and in the 10th year come on to renewed bark of 9 years old.

The systems we propose to compare with this are as follows :—

(1) Alternate day tapping on a half section one cut from May to January. In this system, we work on a basis of not half the bark consumption of the daily tapping, but 5 inches a year. Strictly speaking, it should probably be  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, but in some years climatic conditions will prevent us tapping all January and it is judged that we shall have bark enough if we allow 5 inches a year, instead of 9 inches, for daily tapping. Consequently, we open the first cut at a height of 20 inches from the ground and the first section gives us four years' tapping. We then go to the second section at the same height and in the 9th year, tap the 5 inches of bark above the first cut.

It is obvious that there are other ways of carrying out this system, e.g. in the 5th year, we might begin the new section at 25 inches from the ground. But in the system above, the long cut at the base of the tree in the 7th and 8th years compensate for the drop in yield in the 9th year when we go up.

This illustrates how it is that two systems should not be compared till a complete round of tapping, 9 years in this case, has been done. Since one cannot fully compare the yields of one cut on a third daily in the 8th year at the base with the longer cut alternate day in the case of the half section that year. The advantages to be expected from alternate day tapping are the extra yield from the longer cut and the reduction in cost of tapping.

(2), The standard system of one cut on one third daily, but for only seven months in the year, resting the trees in July and August during the heavy monsoon when a good deal of latex is lost by being washed out of cuts and cups and when the trees are defoliated by *Phytophthora*.

In this case, we have a shorter tapping season, so shall not use up so much bark, 7 inches instead of 9 inches, and the first cut can be opened at a height of 14 inches from the ground. One advantage of this system is that the tapping can be kept 4 inches nearer the base of the tree all the time, which may or may not compensate for the loss of 2 months' crop in Monsoon. Also tentative experiments carried out on the Rubber Experiment Station at Mooply last year showed that the trees benefit by the rest and when tapping is begun again in September the yield is largely increased, an increase which lasts for a month or six weeks and again falls to normal. A fair criticism of this system is that a number of tappers would be thrown



out of work in the monsoon and nothing could be found for them to do. Still, the system might be used to rest fields particularly badly attacked by *Phytophthora* if not over the whole estate. Moreover, experiments carried out last year at the Mycological Station showed that the loss of latex during the monsoon months is very great. This might, of course, be prevented by protecting the cuts and cups, but that "is another story."

(3). Alternate day tapping one cut on one third from May to January. In this experiment, the first cut could be opened at a height of 10 inches from the ground only and the second section at 15 inches. Though possibly not a practical estate system, it has this in its favour that the cut is always low on the tree in the best yielding portion of the bark and it leaves plenty of profitable tapping area higher up the tree if and when Brown Bast develops.

(4) We also propose to conduct an experiment to contrast morning and evening tapping and see just what the difference is.

Several plots will be available at the Station on which to conduct other tapping systems to compare with those set forth above, and we shall welcome suggestions from Rubber planters as to how they can be utilised to the best advantage.

Our main object is to carry out the same system year after year, without any change over a long period and thus get reliable figures which mean something. Careful records of yield and cost will be kept all the time, of course, and the tappers will be alternated in the plots on a definite system so as to eliminate as far as possible the effect of the individual tapper.

As stated before, we are not working under ideal conditions, our trees on the Station are not even, nor is the ground level. All sorts of disturbing factors come in it is admitted, but we do closely resemble *estate conditions* and feel that results obtained under these conditions, if kept over a long period of years, would be of great value to the planter.

‘ RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture.

Planting Districts.

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SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA.

For the Month of March, 1922.

From	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Other places in Asia.	Africa.	America.	Austral.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras	...	...	100	...	423	...	...	...
Calicut	17,088	8,463	321,570	...	...	1,450	1,565	...
Cochin	15,471	...	547,579	100	...	...	...	...
Alleppey	...	8,225	2,630	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	22,436	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	195,396	958,032	...	...	...	...	...
Totals : this month	32,559	212,084	185,2347	100	423	1,450	1,565	...
Previously from 1-4-21 to 28-2-22	231,630	3,387,794	21,617,152	72,124	4,266	...	469	12,675
Total 1-4-21 to 31-3-22	264,189	3,599,878	23,469,499	72,224	4,689	1,450	2,034	12,675

Grand Total Exports ... 27,426,638 lbs.



## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER

For the Month of March, 1922.

From.	To other Ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	America.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Calicut.	...	380	36,524	...	...
Cochin.	34,217	...	172,086	36,049	132,311
Alleppey.	...	26,859	...	...	...
Tuticorin.	...	171	64	...	...
Totals this month :	34,217	27,410	208,674	36,049	132,311
From 1st January : 22 to 28 of February : 22	172,816	249,536	645,792	43,792	298,480
Total from 1st Jan. 1922 to 31st March 1922.	207,033	276,946	854,466	79,841	430,791
Grand Total	...	...	1,849,077 lbs.		

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

**THE MADRAS STAMP (AMENDMENT) ACT 1922:**—Under the Provisions of this Act, which received the assent of the Governor General on 18th April 1922, a number of the stamp duties have been increased up to 50% on the amounts leviable under the Indian Stamp Act 1899. We would draw the attention of our readers to the fact that all documents executed in the Madras Presidency on and after the first day of April 1922 are liable to the increased duties. The stamp duty that requires immediate attention on the part of Planters in the Presidency is that on all Memorandums of Agreement, which has been enhanced to *twelve annas*. Copies of this New Act (Madras Act No. VI of 1922) published in the Fort St. George Gazette, No. 7, dated Tuesday evening, April 25, 1922, can be obtained from the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, price 1 anna 3 ps. per copy. It is understood that all Agreements executed in the Madras Presidency since the 1st April will have to be re-stamped, and we will notify our readers as to the procedure as soon as ascertained.

**KADAYANALLUR LABOUR AGENCY:**—The Superintendent of the Palamcottah Division has requested us to notify that the Kadayanallur Agency (No. 9 of the Palamcottah Division in the list on page 253 of our issue dated 22nd April) has been closed.

**THE INDIA FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) ACT II OF 1922:**—Will come into force on 1—7—1922. Under the Amended Act, "factory" means "any premises wherein or within the precincts of which on any one day in the year not less than 20 persons are simultaneously employed and steam, water or other mechanical power or electrical power is used.

Under Section 33 of this Act every person occupying a factory, shall, on or before the date on which the factory commences working as such, send to the Inspector a written notice containing full particulars of the factory as are required therein. Failure to send the notice is punishable under Section 41 (j) of the Act and the penalty imposed is a fine extending to Rs. 500.

Occupiers of such factories are therefore advised to take the necessary steps to send the required notice to the Inspectors of Factories of the respective Circles by the prescribed time.

**IMPORT DUTY ON TEA INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM:**—Reuter's cable announcing that the Cabinet has agreed to a reduction of 4d. in the pound of the home Tea Duty is of special interest as this reduction was not expected. We presume this reduction is to be applicable to all Teas imported. If it is, the new rate will be 6d. per lb. on British grown Tea and 8d. per lb. on Foreign grown tea.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address: "UPASI Coimbatore")

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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MAY 13, 1922.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

(BY CABLE).

London, 5th MAY, 1922.

122s. per cwt. Market Steady.

## STAMP DUTY ON AGREEMENTS.

### THE INCREASED LEVY.

All contracts, which have been entered into with Malabar since the 1st April last on forms stamped 8 annas, should be sent in to the U. P. A. S. I. Office at Coimbatore with an additional four annas in order that the increased duty may be paid and the Collector's endorsement to that effect obtained. Please do not affix stamps to the Contract.

H. WADDINGTON

7th May 1922.

Director U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department.

## THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 14 (16—29TH APRIL).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was on hill recess during the fortnight under report engaged upon writing his Administration and other reports including the annual reports of the Planting Experiment Stations. The patience which planters have

exercised about these Stations is much appreciated and this year reports will be issued upon each Station in separate form similar to the Annual Reports published on the Agricultural Department Farms. From these reports now being compiled, planters will be able to judge of the start which has been made with the Stations. It is somewhat slow work getting the Stations into the proper conditions for experiments and the end of this has not been reached, but a certain amount of work has actually done and some minor results achieved, especially in the Coffee Experiment Station at Sidapur.

2. ROOT DISEASE OF COFFEE. The commonest root disease of Coffee is caused by a fungus known as *Hymenochaete noxia*, and may be recognised by the fact that earth and stones stick to the dead roots which look as if they had been burned and partly turned into black charcoal. This disease is intimately connected with dead jungle and shade trees and starts from the stumps of such trees if left in the ground as soon as they begin to rot and from them spreads underground to the surrounding coffee. The fungus, living at first on the dead wood and the stump and its decaying roots, can enter the living roots of coffee bushes with which it comes in contact, and having done so it soon kills the coffee bush and spreads along the roots of this victim to the next bush and so on. It thus soon makes a patch of dead trees which if not attended to, spreads year by year, like ripples on a pond form a disturbance centre caused by a stone thrown into the water. Moreover the fungus, after a while, appears to reach a stage, not entirely understood as yet, when it is not strong enough to actually kill the coffee bush, but it makes it sickly, and it never seems to recover. Now this disease is fairly easily controlled if it is tackled in the early stages. The trees which act as infection centres in the first place are fairly well known. They are chiefly, Houlige, or White Cedar, Cinnamon, Bassari, Jack and Atti. There are others, but most are well known. Whenever one of these trees dies in the coffee, the stump should, if possible, be at once removed, and if too big to remove, it should be isolated from the coffee by a deep trench which should be kept open and clean till the stump has entirely rotted away. At the first signs of the disease appearing in the coffee, the affected bushes should be dug out, as many roots removed as possible, dead roots in the pit and traceable from the pit got out and burned and the soil well limed. In this way with a little watchful attention, the disease can be checked. When neglected, it can make bad patches in the coffee which are very difficult to bring round. Even when the disease is fairly prevalent, it can be checked if thoroughly tackled. I have now accumulated the results of an experiment in which, in 1913, 143 coffee trees attacked by root disease were removed from a patch of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres with the attendant rotten stumps etc., the soil limed and the well-known precautions taken. The result has been that the disease was checked in that plot of coffee as witness the fact that in succeeding years, 1914 to 1919, the following numbers of coffee have had to be removed, 7, 5, 1, 1, 2, 2. This shows very markedly the gradual diminution of infection



year by year when the disease is regularly attended to. In 1920, an Atti tree died, a new source of infection was established and in 1920 and 1921, 5 and 6 coffee bushes respectively were attacked and had to be removed. It may be remarked that the mulch was swept up on this plot for quite another reason as remarked on in a report a few weeks ago. This however would have little or no effect on the root disease which is carried under-ground and not along the surface.

### 3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (9-22nd April).

On the Coffee Experiment Station, the anxiously awaited blossom showers have at last arrived. A shower of 1.80 inches of rain fell on 21st. preceded by a few drizzles, the total rain between the 18th and 21st amounting to 2.01 inches. Unless last year's experience of heavy rain in the open blossom is repeated, prospects of a crop are good. Supplies suffered a good deal during the long drought but will now recover. Permanent shade regulation work has been done during the fortnight and now that the rain has come regular station work will be advanced.

On the Tea Experiment Station, the long drought has broken up to some slight extent, the weather has become cloudy and light showers have fallen on seven days out of the 14, amounting in all to 0.94 inch. This has helped the tea a good deal but a lot more rain is needed. Shortage of water has been badly felt in the Station.

Plucking resulted in a crop of 642 lbs. of green leaf from 6.23 acres during the first week and 776 lbs. from 9.14 acres the second week. I find that some misunderstanding has arisen about the crop figures given each week. The Tea is plucked regularly twice a month and the figures given each week are those of the yields obtained from the plucking done. They do not mean that the *same plots* are giving this yield each week. The actual yields obtained from each plot will be recorded in the Annual Report of the Station now being prepared.

On the Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply, light rains have been received, distributed over 5 days during the fortnight and totalling 0.59 inches. Regular tapping will not be begun this season till 1st June, but the tapping being done for the Rubber Mycologist is showing improved yields.

On the Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai, showers have fallen on 8 days during the fortnight amounting in all to 2.32 inches with a fall of 1.26 inches on 10th. This has helped the cover crops and more seed has been sown. Tapping will begin on 1st May and the trees are being marked.

(Sd.) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Dy. Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ANAMALAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE ANAMALAI CLUB, ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26TH APRIL, 1922, AT 11-30 A.M.

PRESENT :—Messrs. J. Hatton Robinson, (Chairman), J. P. Curwen, T. B. Orchard, G. B. Reade, R. J. Burnett, J. E. Carless, J. A. R. Lloyd, E. Hardy, C. L. Napier, J. O. K. Walsh, H. N. F. Walsh, E. Johnson, A. W. F. Mills, F. Simmons, W. V. Reilly, I. Stewart, A. C. Cotton, G. W. Wallace, S. Sladden, J. H. Ireland Jones, and D. Cooper, (Honorary Secretary).

*By proxy* :—Mr. E. N. House.

*Visitors* :—Messrs F. W. Milligan and W. T. Broadhurst.

The Chairman in opening the Meeting welcomed Mr. Milligan of the Assam Labour Board.

MINUTES :—The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 6th March 1922, were taken as read and confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS :—

"Gentlemen,

You have had a particularly efficient Honorary Secretary in Mr. Sampson—who kept you fully posted in all details of the work done by your appointed Committees and Delegates and, since he went home on furlough, Mr. Cooper has "carried on" in the same efficient way—so that, to-day, I am in the very happy position of not having to go into details of the inner working of the Association for the past season.

Your Association has now become an Incorporated Body.

We started the season with gloomy fore-bodings. The prices of all your products had come down with a rush whilst our supply of labour was none too plentiful,

Early rains had destroyed all hope of harvesting good coffee crops, Cardamom prospects were poor, whilst on the Tea estates, we were set the task of working to estimates which would have defied even the economising abilities of a "Geddes Committee".

For some time after the Moplah Rebellion broke out, further anxiety was given us—especially on those estates employing Moplah labour—for, apart from any danger to the Managers, their wives and children, there was always the danger of losing numbers of the non-moplah labour, owing to the possibility of its becoming frightened and bolting, after hearing the numerous false rumours that were flying about at that time.

We can therefore view the present outlook with a certain amount of equanimity. Exchange has moved in our favour, and prices are good for both Coffee and Cardamoms, whilst next season's prospects in these products are excellent.



The position as regards Tea has wonderfully improved, labour is generally sufficient for our requirements, and the political situation, anyhow for the moment, appears to have settled down.

I do not pretend for a moment that very serious problems do not confront this Association. The three greatest problems which we have to contend with have to do with our labour, Roads and Communications, and Transport,—probably these two latter might be taken together as the efficiency of our transport is really dependant on the condition of our roads and communications.

*Labour.*—If there is one Association which has for the past 12 years kept this all important subject in the forefront of the U. P. A. S. I. activities, it has been ours.

The Anamalais and labour are synonymous. Of late years other districts have felt the shortage of labour as much as we have—and have now actually become quite concerned about it.

Many appear to have forgotten about the appalling death rate which occurred amongst the labouring classes, throughout the Country, during the Influenza Epidemic of 1918.

Supposing, for the sake of argument, that the epidemic accounted for 10 per cent. of the labour force on the estates, and for another 10 per cent. of these coolies' relatives in the villages,—it means that at least a further 10 per cent. of the estate labour left the estates to carry on the work of those relatives who died in the villages—so that, for some years to come, 20 per cent. of the labour available for recruiting in certain areas has gone. I do not think that these are exaggerated figures.

The large extensions in Cotton cultivation, and in the ginning of same, have, of late years, given work to large numbers of coolies that used to come to us.

Foreign recruiting has also taken thousands of coolies out of our old recruiting areas.

There was, when I came to this District 11 years ago, a very decent maistry who supplied between 200 & 250 coolies, all recruited in the Coimbatore District. The maistry is still a very respectable man—but he now only supplies between 30 and 40 coolies.

If you question him on the subject he will tell you that better wages than those paid on estates are now paid in the low country to the better class of coolies, and that a lot of his old labour left him to go to "Penang" and "Colombo".

More food for reflection !

The U. P. A. S. I. Labour Commission visited us at the end of January last and the Commissioners' report has since been published and circulated to every member of affiliated Associations.

This Association highly appreciated the public spirited action of Messrs. Nicolls, Lord and Lee in giving up so much of their time to help the Planting Community of South India, and I trust that when we discuss the findings of their report.—with the intention of placing our views before the U. P. A. S. I. at the next Annual General Meeting,—we shall be absolutely unanimous in whatever decision we may arrive at.

Hitherto the policy of this Association has been to support every movement directed towards establishing a highly organised and efficient labour Department and I hope we shall still pursue this policy.

I have read somewhere that the Ceylon Planters now contemplate asking their Government to enforce a Cess sufficient to raise Rs. 1,00,000 per annum for recruiting purposes in South India. And what do we intend doing? Is *this* the time when we should throw overboard even our “inefficient” Labour Department, chance to luck and give a clear field to outside Competitors?

Are we, as a sane body of men, going to allow ourselves to be starved for labour in the labour granary of South India?

I am sure you will make a good fight of it before you will allow such a thing to happen.

The letters which has recently appeared both in the Press and in the “Planters’ Chronicle”—criticising the General Policy of the U. P. A. S. I., and of the Labour Department in particular, only go to show how very much at variance we are—and this at a time when our very existence as a community depends on our unanimity.

We shall always have our differences of opinions, (they are probably the vital elements on which a district thrives) but on some things we do agree, and I am sure that when we calmly consider the position, the big majority of us will see that our interests are practically identical, and that it is essential for the welfare of the Planting Industry that we keep together.

*Transport, Roads and Communications.*—With regard to our proposed Motor Transport Scheme—a very considerable amount has been done by your Committee appointed to go into this. Your Committee met on several occasions and got out figures in connection with the promoting of a Local Motor Transport Company. After considerable delay in obtaining a suitable man, your Committee decided to engage the services of Major Walsh, of the Russa Engineering Works Ltd., to scrutinise our figures, inspect our roads, and to make a report.

Major Walsh visited the district between the 3rd and 6th of this month and your Committee met him on the 5th instant.



I have not yet seen Major Walsh's report, (I hoped that you would have had it before you to-day), but I can tell you Major Walsh told your Committee, that a Motor Transport Service was quite out of the question, "until our roads had been made fit for M. T. traffic," and the Ghaut road improved so as to admit of heavy lorries being used on it.

You will therefore have again to consider the question of your district Transport after receiving Major Walsh's report.

I have heard nothing further about the proposed Railway between Chalakudi and Valparai—except that the survey has been completed—and, in February last, the Dewan of Cochin informed me that Mr. Byron, the Engineer in charge of the Survey, was now at work getting out figures.

The surface of the Ghaut road has been considerably improved during the past two years, especially between the 1st and 16th miles, and our best thanks are due to the Executive Engineer, P. W. D.

From the 16th mile on, however, the road still requires a lot of work done to it.

Our Branch roads are still in very poor order.

With regard to the L. Fund road between Vannanthorie and Pollachi, Major Walsh described this road as "a third class road, in a very bad state of repair".

Considering the amount of money the district pays out to cartmen coming from villages fed by this road, the local District Board should keep the road in first class order.

Taking the Vannanthorie Toll gate receipts as a basis for calculation, approximately, 25,000 carts come annually into the district, and taking the average cart hire up to be at Rs. 14 per cart the total earnings for up loads amount to Rs. 3,50,000.

Now, say  $2/3$ ds of these carts take down loads at an average of Rs. 6 per cart the total earnings of which amount to Rs. 99,996, or say, roughly, Rs.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs per annum, are paid by the estates in this District to low country cartmen.

If these facts were only put in front of estate certain contractors, they might, through their village unions, get the local District Board to see the necessity of keeping this road in good repair.

Before I sit down, I must ask you to keep up your record of having 100 per cent. subscribers to the Benevolent Fund, and of trying to get your estates also to subscribe to this excellent Department.

I have now only thank Mr. Cooper for the work he has done as your Honorary Secretary, and the Committee for the valuable assistance always given me, and you, gentlemen, for the way you have always borne with me, and which has so much assisted in making my term of office such a pleasant one".

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT :—" Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

" I beg to place my report for the year before you. As you know I have only been Honorary Secretary for 3 months, so I will not say much.

*Membership* :—There are 34 estates on the register and 45 personal members.

*Subscriptions* :—for 1921-22 were paid in full.

*Meetings* :—there have been 9 General meetings, 3 General Committee meetings and 4 Transport Committee meetings.

The following acreages have subscribed :—

Tea ..	...	...	13,894 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres.
Coffee	...	...	2,464 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Cinchona	...	...	706 „
Cardamoms	...	...	2,581 „

and, in addition, in the Nelliampathies,

Coffee	...	...	1,831 „
Cardamoms	...	...	5 „ or a total of
for Anamalais	...	...	19,645 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and
Nelliampathies	...	...	1,836 „

An increase of 588 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres as against the previous year.

With regard to crops harvested, I much regret my inability to give you the correct figures as all members have not replied to my request for their crop total, but I hope to be able to, at the next Meeting, put full figures before you.

*TOWNSHIP* :—The bazaars erected have, I regret, not yet been taken up. The Medical Officer's bungalow has been completed.

*P. B. F.* :—This Association has still the largest number of subscribers in any Association to the Fund. There are now 43 members subscribing. For the coming year 3 estates (which number I hope will shortly be largely augmented), have promised to subscribe. The A. P. A. is now subscribing to the Fund Rs. 25 annually.

*ACCOUNTS* :—Copies of these are now before you and shew a balance in hand of Rs. 4,112/5/10 after all assets and liabilities have been taken into account.

*M. F. P.* :—Mr. Napier informs me that he hopes to make a profit of some Rs. 800/—, but cannot yet state definitely as some of the produce collected is not yet sold.

In conclusion Gentlemen, I have to offer my best thanks to our Chairman during my short period of office, for his very able and valued advice and assistance, and to you, gentlemen, for your prompt attention in re the matter of payment of subscriptions, but I would,



for the sake of future Honorary Secretaries, ask some managers to send in their crop and other returns promptly, as, when these are not received it means almost endless correspondence between your Honorary Secretary and the U. P. A. S. I. and those members to get their return in.

I now beg to place my resignation in your hands."

Mr. Lloyd proposed and Mr. Hardy seconded that the Honorary Secretary's reports and accounts be accepted, subject to audit.  
*Carried unanimously.*

AUDITORS:—Messrs Lloyd and Ogilvy were appointed auditors.

TRANSPORT:—Major Walsh's report not having been received, the Honorary Secretary read out notes he had taken at the Committee Meeting addressed by Major Walsh.

Mr. Lloyd spoke on the matter of transport saying matters now stood as they had 11 years ago, and suggested that the Association make up figures for the construction of the new road to be made by the District, and submit estimates to the various heads of interests concerned for approval.

Considerable discussion took place on this subject and Mr. Carless proposed, Mr. Johnson seconding, that:—

1. "A representative Committee be formed to enquire into the feasibility of some scheme to construct a road, in the vicinity of the present Railway trace through to Chalakudi; and to impress Government and our Directors or Proprietors the urgent necessity of their immediate assistance".
2. Mr. Mills proposed, Mr. Hardy seconding, "that the following gentlemen form a Committee to go fully into the above matters:—Messrs Cotton, Robinson and Simmons".  
*Carried unanimously.*

LETTER FROM NILGIRI P. A.:—The Honorary Secretary was directed to write to managers for details of their Baduga connections, and to send them to the Nilgiri P. A.,

REMOVAL OF TIMBER FROM ANAMALAIS:—The Honorary Secretary was requested to reply to the D. F. O's, letter, of the 22—3—1922, requesting that as the giving of brake poles, and permitting cartmen to take them to the low country was originally allowed by Government as a concession to the cartmen, that they be allowed to continue to do so, provided always that they keep within the specified measurements laid down by Government.

INTER-DISTRICT GOLF TOURNAMENT:—Mr. Johnson proposed, Mr. Mills seconding, "that this Association enters." *Carried unanimously*

PUBLIC BAZAARS ON TOWNSHIP:—The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the persons who had erected huts, giving them a week's notice to clear out and, if they did not do so to apply to the Collector of Coimbatore for powers to evict them.

CORRESPONDENCE:—Letter from Mr. House re Stanmore Bazaar bridge and sign posts.

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Executive Engineer re the bridge.

Mr. Stewart very kindly offered to erect sign posts at (1) the Iyerpadi corner, (2) mile 21.4 & (3) Stanmore turn off.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to approach Messrs Barber & Pascoe with the view to the erection of a sign post in Pollachi giving the way to Valparai.

Read letter from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., regarding Incorporation and editing the "Planters' Chronicle".

MINOR FOREST PRODUCE:—The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Napier for his excellent work in connection with this.

WAGES STANDARDISATION:—Read circular dated 10—4—22, from the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., giving wages suggested by the U.P.A.S.I. for opinion of the various associations before submitting to the S. I. A. for adoption. This Association, on a vote, did not agree to the proposals.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:—The voting resulted as follows:—

*Chairman:*—J. Hatton Robinson.

*Honorary Secretary:*—D. Cooper.

Association representatives on UPASI. General Committee:—

Messrs Robinson and Cotton.

These two gentlemen were also elected as Delegates to the U. P. A. S. I.

Annual Meeting, to be held at Bangalore.

Mr. Robinson thanked the Meeting for again electing him as their Chairman and on the U. P. A. S. I. Committee.

A. P. A. GENERAL COMMITTEE:—The representatives of Companies present were requested by the Chairman to send in the name of their respective nominees.

With a Vote of thanks to the Chair, The meeting terminated.

(Signed) J. HATTON ROBINSON,

*Chairman.*

" DUDLEY COOPER,

*Honorary Secretary.*



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

[The "Planters' Chronicle" is not responsible for the opinions of its correspondents.]

## U. P. A. S. I. RE-ORGANIZATION.

SIR,

The necessity for an immediate reorganization of the U. P. A. S. I. appears to be generally admitted, and so that we may have something to guide us when the time comes for instructing delegates to the Bangalore meeting, I suggest that voting papers on the following lines should be circulated at once by the Executive Committee and the result published as soon as possible.

1. Do you agree to a maximum yearly subscription of 3 annas per acre for all products for U. P. A. S. I. general charges *plus* an annual subsidy to the Labour Department of 6 annas per acre tea, 5 annas per acre coffee, 2 annas per acre rubber and other products?
2. Do you agree to become a full member of the Labour Department on a maximum yearly subscription of Rs. 2/4 per acre tea, Rs. 2 per acre coffee, 8 annas per acre rubber and other products?
4. *For proprietors of rubber estates only* :—Do you agree to pay 10 annas per acre per annum for the Mycological Department?
5. *For proprietors of all estates except rubber* :—Are you willing to consider the advisability of paying a separate acreage subscription for an improved Scientific Department if a carefully thought out proposal should be placed before you. The subscription would cover, *inter alia*, the present annual subscription to Government of Rs. 7,500 and would probably not amount to more than two or, at the most, three annas per acre.

I have put a low figure for rubber subsidy and subscription to the Labour Department, as while tea requires about a coolie per acre, rubber only wants one for eight or ten acres. I can slightly more tea than rubber so can give an impartial opinion as regards these two products, but a ignorant of coffee's requirements.

The maximum subscription for full membership of the Labour Department may appear to be high. My excuse is that a great deal has been said and written as to the Department being starved for want of funds. Another point is that a considerable acreage will probably not accept full membership.

My reasons for agreeing to the proposal to subsidize the Labour Department from the U. P. A. S. I. general funds are that, though many complain that the Department has been of no real use to them, it has certainly been of no direct benefit to me; I admit, and think that others must admit that by registering kangannies, advertising

defaulters and preventing many bad and doubtful characters from being advanced, it has done good work for the whole community, and not merely for those who make constant use of it. It is also certain that an independent and, possibly, hostile Labour Department run by men whose billets would depend on their ability to supply coolies to subscribers, could do a great deal of harm to nonsubscribing estates. Rubber estates might not feel the pinch much, but the subsidy asked from them is small.

As regards a special subscription for an improved Scientific Department for all products except rubber, the general impression appears to be that little good is resulting from the present scientific aid given to planters. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, is not to blame for this. He has no funds at his disposal and should not be expected to work miracles. In my opinion the rubber experimental stations ought to be handed over to the Rubber Mycologist, also the Government upkeep grant—am I right in thinking that there is such a grant?

Voting papers should be signed by proprietors of their properly authorised agents.

I further suggest:—

(A) that estates (not associations) should be members of the U. P. A. S. I. This would do away with the necessity for incorporation of district associations. If desired, a rule can easily be framed under which the head association could only be approached as at present through a recognised District Association though Estate would be directly liable for their subscriptions to the former.

(B) that the U. P. A. S. I. should be registered in Native States as well as in British India. A day may arrive when the whole weight of the S. I. planting community will be required to help planters in a Native State, and it is desirable that the U. P. A. S. I. should be in a position to deal direct with the State in question instead of through the Madras Government.

(C) that members should be allowed to resign on giving twelve months notice. If the U. P. A. S. I. makes good no one will want to resign; if after a second reorganization it cannot make good, then the sooner we stop spending money on it the better.

At a recent General Committee meeting it was suggested by an Executive Committee member that the U. P. A. S. I. could be carried on as at present, if rubber estate proprietors, unable at the moment to pay their subscriptions, would admit their liability and promise to pay when an improvement in their industry set in. This suggestion ought not to be considered for a moment. Expenditure should not exceed the assured income of the Association.

Yours faithfully,  
J. J. MURPHY.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated,

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

(BY CABLE).

London, 12th MAY, 1922.

116s. per cwt. Market Quiet.

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### S. CANARA SEASON'S REPORT.

**WEATHER.** Heavy rain was experienced on 2 or 3 occasions during the month of April.

**CROPS.** Ploughing for the first crop is in progress in most parts of the District.

**PRICE OF GRAINS.** Rs. 7 to 8-per murah of 84 lbs.

**LABOUR.** Large batches of coolies have left for the Tea Estates from Manjeshwar side during the month. Coffee Estate coolies are now returning in numbers to their villages. It is unfortunately becoming a common habit among Suppliers, to repudiate, on any pretext whatever, their written undertaking given at the end of the previous season to settle up the claims of others against maistries and coolies, whom they may have subsequently advanced, and sent to the Estate.

It would greatly assist the Department if Estate Managers would insist upon their labour suppliers fulfilling these undertakings. Otherwise there would appear no object in the Department undertaking to try and settle such cases.

**HEALTH.** Is on the whole good, though there is a certain amount of fever prevalent as is usual at this time.

Mangalore }  
2—5—1922 }

F. W. WINTERBOTHAM,  
Superintendent.

## MYSORE CIRCLE REPORT.

During the latter part of the month showers have been nearly general in the District. Cholan is being sown in the southern portion of the State.

Price of foodstuffs remains much the same and may be taken at Ragi, 10 seers per Re., Rice  $4\frac{1}{2}$  seers. The prices of foodstuffs at Gundlupet at the last Shandy-day in the month were Rice Rs. 22 per pullah of 100 Mysore seers, Ragi Rs. 10 per pullah, Gram Rs. 13-8 per pullah and Cholan Rs. 11 per pullah.

Maistries whom I have interviewed seem fairly well satisfied and say that they have been able to secure coolies for next Season. Most of the Canarese Maistries have now come down from the Estates and are recruiting. In this connection I would like to mention that when maistries and others are sent to my office for money or other business it would be well if Estate Superintendents would kindly arrange to send them between the 1st and 10th of the month, if it is essential that they see me in person; during that period I am always to be found in Mysore but during the rest of the month my movements are uncertain and I am usually not in Mysore for more than 3 to 4 days at a time, and in consequence it sometimes happens that maistries have to wait several days for my arrival which causes them a good deal of unnecessary expense if it happens that they have come for money or to cash a cheque. Other work such as letters to Agents and information regarding their coolies is of course done in my absence by the Office-staff, and is available at any time.

There appears to be a mild type of Influenza prevalent over most of the District which although causing only a very small mortality, is not conducive to coolies leaving their homes at present for the Estates.

MYSORE, 5-5-22.

C. C. KENT.

## REPORT ON SRIVILLIPUTHUR DIVISION NORTH.

*Uttamapalayam.*—There is practically no agricultural work going on. Irrigation from the Periyar Dam has ceased temporarily and will not be resumed till the middle of June. Should rain fall in the interval, ploughing operations will commence. Rain fell about the middle of last month, enabling the ryots to do a certain amount of cultivation. The backward parts of the paddy crop have not yet been harvested, but the main harvest is over and labour is available. Grains with the exception of paddy are cheap. Cattle fodder is plentiful. There is practically no sickness in the valley. The price of rice is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  measures a rupee. An important festival takes place in May at Veerapandi.



*Bodi.* Conditions are almost similar to those in the Kumbum Valley. There is plenty of water for agricultural purposes and weeding and ploughing are going on. All grains are fairly expensive. From the end of April till the middle of July is the recruiting season in this vicinity. In the villages there is no sickness to speak of. The price of rice is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  measures a rupee.

*Usilampatti.*—Harvest is finished, labour is available and will be more or less till the end of June. Water is scarce and grain is dear on the whole. Small-pox is still prevalent but is waning. Coolies are not likely to start from these parts till after the Chitrai festival in Madura. This finishes about the middle of May, and is of some importance to the Kallars, in addition to being one of the main festivals in the year. It lasts for about a fortnight.

*Madura.*—The harvest is over to all intents and purposes, and no agricultural operations are going on in lands irrigated by the Periyar, and, failing rain, there will be none till after the middle of June. The cotton picking season is still on. Three quarters of the cotton crop this year has been bad, owing to rain failure last October. The rice crop has been poor except in the Periyar irrigated area. This also is not so good as usual. The recruiting season is from the end of April till the middle of July. Money is scarce all over. Price of rice is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures a rupee.

Coolies are said to be available in the Thiruppavanam Taluk on the Aviyur side, and in the Nilakottai Taluk in the vicinity of Kodai Road. This is labour, which has, in the past, gone to Ceylon. No great movement of labour is likely to take place till the finish of the Chitrai festival.

*Tirumangalam.*—Conditions here are similar to those in Madura. Paddy crop has been poorer than usual, as has the cotton, and foodstuffs are expensive. Little labour is ever available in this vicinity, (The Kallanad), with the exception of one or two villages. The recruiting season, such as it is extends from end April till mid July. The price of rice is  $3\frac{1}{8}$  measures a rupee.

During the month the Ceylon Labour Commission have been carrying on an active advertisement campaign, particularly in and around, Srivilliputhur, Sattur, Watrap and Tirumangalam. Hitherto Srivilliputhur and Watrap have been more or less left alone by the C. L. C., and it is likely that, in future, their sphere of operations will be further extended into our already heavily recruited area.

The wages over most of the District under review (The Northern Part) remain practically the same with slight reductions here and there.

A. H. MACKIE.

## REPORT OF THE PALAMCOTTA DIVISION,

April has been a very busy month. The paddy harvest was completed about the 20th of the month. Heavy rains fell during the month which were beneficial to the dry crops, and sowing of the next paddy crop was commenced in areas which are dependent on rain fed tanks - mainly in the Nanguneri Taluk, also Ambasamudram, Srivaikuntam and Tinnevelly Taluks. Work was plentiful and there was no shortage of labour. Good wages were being earned in all parts of the District and South Travancore.

The Cholan harvest was commenced and should be completed by the 20th of May. The price of Rice and paddy was cheap, ranging from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures to 4 measures per rupee and paddy Rs 13 per cotta in the Nanguneri and Ambasamudram Taluks to 17 in the northern portion of the Koilpatti Taluk. Rice is seldom bought by the labouring class as it is cheaper to purchase the paddy and husk it, the husks being used for fuel. The cotton crop has been harvested in the northern half of the Koilpatti Taluk and should be completed in the southern portion by the 15th of May. The following is a guide to the main crops grown in each of the Taluks of the Tinnevelly District.

*Nanguneri Taluk.*—The largest Taluk in the District. Main product: Rice. Cholan is also grown extensively in the southern half of the Taluk. Not much Raggi cultivation.

*Ambasamudram Taluk.*—Rice: A very rich Taluk.

*Tenkasi Taluk.*—Rice in the south and Cholan in the North.

*Tinnevelly Taluk.*—A very rich rice area within a radius of 6–7 miles of Tinnevelly Town. Very barren country further north where cotton and Cholan are grown.

*Srivaikuntam Taluk.*—Very rich rice area in the south. Poor country in the North where Cholan and Cotton are grown. Usually suffers from shortage of water.

*Koilpatty Taluk.*—Rich cotton area. Cholan is the second important crop. Suffers from shortage of water. Nearly all black cotton soil throughout the Taluk.

*Advances:*—The advancing season this year has been much of a surprise to me. Transactions during the last four months show an increase of over 140 percent. over the same period last year.

The standard rates of advances agreed to by certain District Associations are not being adhered to strictly. This is leading to unfair competition and will culminate in the rates being increased



30 per cent. if not checked. I see no reason for an increase in the present rate.

*Way expenses.*—I would draw attention to the remarks on this subject which appeared in my report in the Planters' Chronicle of the 18th March 1922. Also to the last paragraph of my Circular No. 141 dated the 27th Feb. 1921. I cannot emphasize the importance of this point too strongly. It is in the interests of the kangany as well as the estate for way expenses to be paid through the department. It will invariably be found in cases where the kg. has received his advance and way expenses in a lump sum that the kg. has not got the wherewithal to get his labour up to the estate when it is ready to leave. He is not to blame for this as his coolies are fully aware he has got the money for their way expenses and his life is made miserable till he parts with it in driblets. A few days delay in getting the labour away during the short slack period between the harvest and sowing seasons is apt to prove disastrous. Coolies will not leave the low country when they can get work in their own villages, no matter the wage is 50 per cent. lower than that paid on the estate. Way expenses will not be paid without estate Superintendent's authority.

There have been numerous cases lately where kanganies have been put to great inconvenience and loss of labour through no advice being received for payment of way expenses.

*Approximate of Grain etc.,*

Description of grain.	Tinnevelly District.	S. Travancore Nagercoil Taluk:
Rice	Rs. 1/- 3½ to 4 measures	Same as in Tinnevelly
Paddy ( N. B ).	Rs. 13/- to Rs. 17/- per Kottah.	do.
Cholam ( N. B ).	Rs. 1/- 5 to 8 measures	Rs. 1/- 8 measures
Raggi	Rs. 14/- to 16/- per Kottah:	
Cambu	Rs. 9/- to 16/- per Kottah (3 grades)	

(1) It is only in the north of the Koilpatty Taluk that paddy costs Rs. 17 per kottah. The price did not exceed Rs. 15 elsewhere.

(2) Average price of cholam was 7 to 8 measures except in the Koilpatti Taluk where it was from 5 to 6 measures for the Re.

Palamcotta }  
13-5-1922. }

A. G. A. DUNNING.

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SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT. U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 15. (30th April—6th May).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was on hill recess during the week. Mr. Anstead is expected to return to headquarters on 10th May.

## 2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (23rd—29th April).

At the *Coffee Experiment Stations*, a blossom shower amounting to 1'80 inches fell on 21st and the blossom was fully out on 29th, eight days later. Some blossom was out on 27th, from the effect of the earlier drizzles. Unfortunately, showers have fallen all the week, half an inch on 27th, 40 cents on 28th and 90 cents on the open blossom on 30th. This will, probably, damage the crop considerably and prospects at present are not good. Plot No. 3 has been forked according to programme and 1000 basket plants of Kent's arabica and Jackson's hybrid have been prepared in soil mixed with lime and sulphur to protect them from the attack of Mealy Bug scale.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, only 0'29 inches of rain have been received and this has done very little good. Good rain is very badly needed throughout the whole district where the scarcity of water is being keenly felt. 694 lbs. of green leaf were plucked during the week from 11'8 acres.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, 0'25 inches of rain fell on 29th and this will help the cover crops. Drains are being cleared preparatory to the rains and disease work being done. The only tapping at present is that in connection with experiments being conducted for the Rubber Mycologist.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, 1'08 inches of rain have been received in three showers and this has greatly benefitted the cover crops which are coming up. The trees are being marked preparatory to beginning tapping on 1st May.

(Signed) RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture,

Planting Districts.

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## THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

### PROPAGANDA FUND.

In June, 1921, a circular was issued by the Rubber Growers' Association dealing with the creation of a Propaganda Department, and appealing for financial support towards immediate expenses in order to enable the Association to carry out more active propaganda work and to investigate possible directions in which an intensive scheme could be developed.

Your attention is invited to the article entitled "The Rubber Growers' Association and Propaganda," in the January BULLETIN. This article dealt in concise form with the propaganda activities of the Association prior to the formation of a separate Propaganda Department, the preliminary scheme of the Department, and the progress made since its commencement.

It has been recognised from the outset that the inception of the Propaganda Fund last year was only a preliminary to the establishment of a permanent fund upon a comprehensive basis, as the Council felt that definite and concrete proposals would first have to be formulated before they would be justified in approaching producers for support to a general fund.

The Association is at present actively engaged in the investigation of new uses for rubber, particularly those which show promise of absorbing large quantities of the raw material in this country and abroad. It is eminently desirable that this work should be expanded to such an extent as will permit of the ideas being presented to manufacturers in a form which will render them suitable for adoption upon a commercial basis.

Amongst such new uses special mention may be made of :—

- (a) The use of crude rubber for footwear and other purposes.
- (b) The use of latex in its liquid form in paper making and other suggested manufactures.
- (c) New methods of using rubber for floor coverings, pavements, roadways, etc.

The Association's chemist has been specially retained to render assistance with such work, but much more could be done and progress would be accelerated if adequate funds were available for the necessary expert and other assistance, and also for the carrying out of exhaustive experiments in conjunction with manufacturers under actual commercial conditions.

In respect of existing uses of rubber, the Propaganda Committee have decided also to concentrate immediately upon a scheme of co-operative publicity and advertisement, and a definite plan of campaign involving the co-operation of manufacturers and distributors has been drawn up, a main feature of which will be the issue of a series of booklets dealing with rubber and its manifold uses, particular attention being drawn to the lessor-known uses of rubber in regard to which there is scope for considerable development.

In order to be thoroughly effective it is desirable that the issue of the booklets should be supported by simultaneous newspaper publicity and advertising coupled with poster work, special trade



supplements, "follow-up" literature, cinema advertisement, etc., and in addition, exhibitions of rubber goods of guaranteed quality to be arranged in the leading provincial towns. Propaganda of this description must be continuous and comprehensive if the maximum results are to be obtained. The extent of the development of this portion of the general propaganda scheme will necessarily depend upon the amount of financial support received. The greater the measure of support afforded, the greater will be the prospects of obtaining results commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

With the above definite proposals in view, the Council feel justified in launching a scheme for raising funds. It is obvious that it will be impossible to indicate precisely the expenditure involved by carrying out the propaganda activities outlined above, as much will depend on the support given by producers and others, and also the extent of co-operation on the part of manufacturers, distributors, etc. The whole propaganda scheme, however, is capable of adjustment, and as its operation will doubtless extend over a long period it is considered that the most convenient method to adopt will be to raise a *Guarantee Fund* for propaganda work.

Each producing company is invited to guarantee an amount equivalent to 1s. per acre of rubber planted, of which not more than 50 per cent. (6d. per planted acre) will be called up in the year 1922. The minimum total guarantee to make the scheme operative is fixed at £25,000.

Non-producing companies and others connected with the industry are asked to support the scheme by guaranteeing definite sums which will be called up in the same proportions as in the case of producing companies, or alternatively, by actually subscribing definite amounts. A form of guarantee is attached which should be returned as soon as possible, and in any case not later than June 30th.

The particular form of publicity outlined above represents only a small portion of the general propaganda scheme which is essentially constructive in character, and one which will take time to develop to the fullest extent. If the full scheme can be carried out in its entirety, the results cannot fail to be of lasting and permanent benefit to the Rubber Plantation Industry, but it will be impossible to attain the fullest measure of success unless adequate financial support is forthcoming. Obviously the figure of £25,000 is the absolute minimum with which it will be possible to embark upon the proposed activities even in a restricted form.

It is hoped, therefore, that the whole industry will give their fullest support to the scheme so that the necessary funds may be forthcoming to permit of the immediate carrying into effect of the proposals outlined above, the main object of which is to stimulate the consumption of rubber with a consequent beneficial effect on the market price of the commodity.

The Council have been much encouraged by the measure of sympathy and the practical recognition of their efforts to encourage propaganda which have been shown by the Governments of the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements, who have contributed the sums of £3,000 and £500 respectively towards the expenses of the Propaganda Department.

The Rubber Shareholders' Association, through the medium of its members on the Propaganda Committee, has notified its full approval of the proposals, and has promised to support to the fullest extent the appeal which is now being made.

FRANK G SMITH,  
Secretary.

### PORT OF LONDON DOCK CHARGES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on and after the 10th April, 1922, the following REDUCTIONS will be made in the Percentage Addition to Tariff Dock and Warehouse Dues, Rates and Charges :—

	Reduction.	Reducing the percentage addition to
<i>On Shipping—</i>		
Dock Dues on vessels of Class I.	12½ points	85 per cent.
Dock Dues on vessels of other Classes ... ..	15 points	85 per cent.
Dry Dock Charges ... ..	15 points	85 per cent.
Discharging and Extra Charges,	5 points	95 per cent.
Additional Rent—No reduction in the percentage increase which remains at 85 per cent., but		
Extension of free lay days as follows :—		
Vessels of Class I—to 21 days.		
Of other Classes—to 14 days.		

#### *On Goods—*

Imports—Landing and Extra Charges ... ..	7½ points	92½ per cent.
Exports—Charges ... ..	7½ points	92½ per cent.
Additional Rent ... ..	15 points	85 per cent.
Proportionate reductions will be made in the Rates on Refrigerated Produce and Soft Wood where the percentage increase has been merged in the rates.		

The reductions will not apply to the following :—

- i. Charges for any services performed or rent incurred before the 10th April, 1922.
- ii. Goods ex ships which had broken bulk before the 10th April, 1922, for storage at rates including a period of rent or at commuted rent charges.
- iii. Vessels which reported before the 10th April, 1922.
- iv. Dry Dock Rent. (The percentage addition remains at 85 %).

By Order,  
F. AYLIFFE,  
Secretary.

109, LEADENHALL STREET, E.C. 3.  
6th APRIL, 1922.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, PLANTING DISTRICTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1922 :—

The following quantities of plantation produce were exported from the Madras Presidency during the month of March 1922 :—

Tea, 2,100,628 lbs. Export from 1st January to 31st March 27,426,638 lbs. Of these amounts, 88.1 per cent and 85.5 per cent went to the United Kingdom respectively.

Rubber, 438,661 lbs. Export from 1st January to 31st March 1,849,677 lbs. Of these amounts, 32.3 per cent, and 46.1 per cent went to the United Kingdom respectively, and 44.3 per cent and 23.2 per cent to the United States of America.

At the begining of the month, the London Market was fully supplied with both Indian and African coffee as a number of ships arrived during the last week in March with 33,100 bags of this season's crop and others were due. Prices have been fairly good, though the crop was below the average in quantity.

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, the prolonged drought lasted untill the middle of the month and supplies suffered a good deal. On 17th and 18th, the sky clouded up and nice showers fell in the neighbourhood of Perchicadu, and Canoncadu estates, but the station only got 20 cents. Blossom showers so badly needed, did not fall till 21st, when we got 1.80 inches. More rain fell on 27th and 28th. On the 30th, nine days after the blossom shower the blossom was fully open. Unfortunately in the evening there was a thunder storm with 0.90 inch of rain and a little hail. This falling on the open blossom has, probably, done a good deal of damage and adversely affected the setting of the crop. This is the third year in succession that we have had rain on the open blossom at the Station. It is not only disappointing but hard luck on the Farm Manager, Since the results of his hard work are not fully represented in a big Crop at the Station.

The rain which amounted to 3.92 inches during the month has greatly benefitted the supplies, and the young coffee in the hybrid plots has come through the drought very well. The thick mulch of leaves given them has had a good effect, and they are now flushing out into new growth. Blossom formed on them was rubbed off so as not to weaken the plants by a premature crop.

The plot of *Crotalaria Semperflorens* being tried as a green dressing has withstood the hot weather quite well. The nursey is in

good condition. 3000 basket plants have been raised and the soil in which 1000 of them are planted was treated with a lime and sulphur mixture to protect them from the attack of Mealy Bug Scale. All could not be thus treated, owing to the difficulty of procuring enough sulphur for the purpose locally. The balance of the plants were put in soil treated with lime only and will act as a test to see if this is sufficient protection.

Advantage was taken of the hot weather when no other work could be done to regulate the permanent shade on the whole station. Plot 3, which is being collar pruned, was forked after the rain and *Cassia hirsuta* seed has been sown as a green dressing; in open places, it has already germinated. The special plots of green dressings for comparative study have been sown down and the seed has germinated satisfactorily with the exception of *Tephrosia candida* which has given about a 50% germination, and *Desmodium rufescens* which has failed.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Mooply, a hot dry month was experienced with a total of 1.01 inch of rain distributed over 6 days. These light showers have helped the green dressing of *Tephrosia candida* which is coming up well. There are some thousand acres or more now under a cover of *Tephrosia Candida* on the neighbouring estates and during this dry whether some of this has been attacked by scale insects. Specimens of these were reported by the Government Entomologist to be *Cerococcus hibisci*, a yellow scale which also attacks cotton and hibiscus, and a species of *Ceroplastodes*, a white scale. No particular treatment is needed, and the scale will, probably, disappear with the advent of the rains.

The account sales of the rubber produced at the Tenmalai Station have been received from Messrs. Harrisons & Crofield. These show that 557 lbs. of dry plain sheet sold in Colombo at 39 cents per lb. and 99 lbs. of scrap at 29 cents. This netted a total of Rs. 245.94. Colombo charges amounted to Rs. 25.65 leaving a balance of Rs. 220.29. The Nagamally factory charges were agreed upon at 3 as. per lb. in the Director of Agriculture's R. O. C. D-751-21 dated 5th November, and the Station was to receive the balance up to 7 as. per lb. Consequently this leaves a balance of (Rs. 220-4-8 less Rs. 123) Rs. 97-4-8 for the crop which has been duly received and paid into the Treasury.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated,

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 19th MAY, 1922.

118s. per cwt. Market irregular.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

ACT 1 OF 1903 :—Under recent orders of the Government of Madras, Law (General) Department, the following gentlemen have been authorized to attest the execution of labour contracts under Section 4 of the Madras Planters' Labour Act :—Messrs. E. L. Godley, Carolina Estate, Pundalur, and C. St. John Ives, Mailoor Estate, Coonoor.

COFFEE PLANT BREEDING :—We learn from the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, that, at the Phytotechnical Station of Porto Rico, the improvement of coffee by plant breeding is in progress. The improvements aimed at are the quality and quantity of the berries produced, and the rapidity of growth, etc., of the bushes. Propagation of the best types are being effected by both seed selection and by vegetative methods. We do not remember hearing of the latter method ever having been tried in South India, or at any rate not with any success, and it will be interesting to hear later if

TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—The following notification appears in the Travancore Government Gazette dated 10th May.—“ In pursuance of Rules 12 (1) and 12 (6) of the Travancore Legislative Council Electoral Rules the name of the member elected by the Planters' Constituency of the Legislative Council is hereby published :—Mr. John Mackie ”.

"The Board of Revenue has been requested to instruct Collectors that, where a registered document is produced before them and the necessary endorsement has been made after recovering the deficit stamp duty, intimation thereof should be given to the registration officer concerned to enable him to make the necessary entries in his books.

INTER DISTRICT TENNIS :—Two more matches of the Tennis Tournament have been played. Mundakavani met Central Travancore at Thunga Mullay, Vandiperiyar, on 13th May, the home team winning easily by 5 points to nil. The matches were as follows :—

J. H. Cantlay (C. T. P. A.) beat F. G. Millar (Mundakayam).  
6—4;                      6—1

H. Clarke (C. T. P. A.)	beat C. L. McLean (Mundakayam).
6—1 ;	8—6

J. H. Cantlay and (C. T. P. A.) beat F. G. Millar) (Mundakayam).  
H. Clarke. and C. L. McLean.

The other match was between the Wynaad and the Nilgiri Wynaad, which was played at Meppadi Club on 17th May, and resulted in a win for Wynaad.



**THE TEA MARKET :—**Offerings have been large of late, and, though a slightly easier tone has prevailed all round, it is a healthy sign that common teas have been in more request at steady prices.

**THE RUBBER MARKET :—**Continues most irregular. It seemed to improve at the beginning of last month, but this would appear to be largely due to mixing latex operators. The prices quoted last by Reuter lately have been on the downward grade again.

**THE COFFEE MARKET :—**Good to fine coffees have met with keen competition, but, as is usual at this time of year, a certain amount of East Indian Coffee selling over is not so good in quality. These naturally do not sell well, and this lowers the all round average. In spite of large offerings and dealers finding difficulty in financing their purchases at such high prices, the market generally shows no weakness. Locally, little business has been transacted, as buyers are holding back for the auctions which commence next month both at Coimbatore and on the Coast, but values show no sign of weakening.

## TEA PRODUCTION.

In accordance with the resolution passed at Bangalore last year, the U. P. A. S. I. Office has endeavoured to obtain accurate figures of production of Tea and Rubber as from 1st January. The General Committee resolved that these should be collected and published quarterly.

About 80 per cent. of the Tea estates belonging to District Associations have sent in returns. The results of the remainder have had to be estimated for, as have the yields of those Estates which do not belong to District Associations. The following is a summary of the figures collected :—

Area of Tea being plucked	...	...	73,849 acres.
Estimated yield for quarter ending 31-3-22.	7,341,705 lbs.		
Total of made Tea plucked during quarter ending 31-3-22	...	...	7,329,706 ..
Estimated yield for Quarter ending 30-6-22.	9,979,070		

The Rubber returns have been so incomplete that no figures can be published at present. It is hoped that these may be published later.

### NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the Nilgiri Planters' Association held at the Collector's Office, Ootacamund, on Wednesday the 3rd of May, 1922, at 11 A. M.

*Present.* Messrs. A. K. Weld Downing, (Chairman), L. F. Lake, N. J. Stanes, A. S. Dandison, Percy Reed, W. A. Cherry, L. L. Porter, Maj. J. B. Leslie Rogers and F. H. Farmer. (Honorary Secretary.)

*Visitors.* H. Waddington, Esq., and Hon. Member, R. D. Anstead (Dy. Dr. Agri. Planting Districts)

#### PROCEEDINGS.

1. The Notice calling the Meeting was read.
2. Proceedings of the previous Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.
3. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.  
Gentlemen,

As there is a fairly long Agenda before us, I will not take up your valuable time with a lengthy address. Your Hon. Secretary will give you all essential details of the years' work of the Association in his report.

Tea and Coffee crops in the District have been fairly average, and would have been better but for the season. So far this year it has been a good one for both, perhaps a little too dry for the former in parts, and I consider that this year should turn out well. Prices are good and we have nothing to grumble at, but with regard to tea, I should like to sound a note of warning. We produce but a small quantity of the world's supply of tea, but do not, now that prices are good, go in for anything in the nature of coarse plucking, for by so doing, as surely as night follows day, we shall be helping to get into the ghastly situation we were in some 18 months ago, when the market became flooded with common teas. Let our maxim be, "quality before quantity".

Last year your Chairman referred to the enhancement of L. F. Tolls, and we have to thank our representatives on the Board for being the means of our now being able to compound the fee for *one* Vehicle. I trust that next year may see the concession extended, and that one may be able to compound for any number. For some of us the tolls on our Tea and Coffee despatching carts amount to a considerable sum, and I trust that our Representatives will bring this matter before the Board.

The U. P. A. S. I. is passing through a critical time, and it is up to us, through our District Association, to give it all the support we can. By support, I do not mean the mere fact of your paying Subscriptions, and leaving your U. P. A. S. I. Representatives to do their best on your behalf, to be sufficient; but by yourselves attending all



Meetings of this Association in force and really thrashing out matters that are of vital importance to us and our industry. If anyone has adverse criticism to make, come and make it. We meet here to go into matters from *all* points of view, and unless this *is* done, it is impossible for your Officials to do all that they might. Gentlemen, what we need is combination and a united front. Unless we make up our minds to do so at once, and not only talk about but determine to *act* up to, we shall find things go from bad to worse. Do not let us continue in the policy (so called) of "drift", but try and make a start by determining on some workable basis, during this year, for the standardisation of what hits all of us hard, that is the rates we pay for our coolies and various works.

Finally, Gentlemen, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Committee for their help at all times, and especially to our Hon. Secretary for the able manner in which he has conducted the affairs of the Association. Also to you, Gentlemen, who have supported me at our meetings,— and I hope that my successor in the Chair will have the pleasure of always being able to record a "full house".

I thank you for the honour you did me in electing me as your Chairman, and now beg to tender my resignation.

#### 4. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, PLANTING DISTRICTS.

Mr. R. D. Anstead then addressed the meeting as follows:—  
Gentlemen,

A few days ago I completed my 13th year of service as your Scientific Officer, and, naturally, on such an occasion, one's thoughts turn back towards the beginning. I very well remember the first time I had the pleasure of addressing this Association in 1909. In those days, I was travelling round this district with Sir Fairless, then plain Mr. Barber, who acted as a sort of a showman, and at the end of each performance, he took round the hat and begged for money to support a Scientific Department. In those days the U. P. A. S. I. had no Office even, nor a full-time Secretary; there was no Labour Department and everything was peaceful and sleepy.

We have travelled far since then and have tried a good many experiments. Some of those have been failures, as was only to be expected, but I venture to think that we have secured some successes.

One of our failures was the small plot of land I opened on the Coonoor Ghat with the idea of planting up different varieties of Coffee and making some new hybrids. The land was never very satisfactory, and we had a great deal of trouble with the shade, which could not be regulated over so small an area without cutting down more trees than the Forest Department would allow. Moreover, success in another place, at that time unforeseen, had rendered the plot more or less unnecessary. I found Mr. A. H. Jackson in Coorg already working at a most promising hybrid, a cross between Arabica

and Liberia, and was able to give him advice which led him on to standardise a definite hybrid which comes true to type, disease resistant, and gives heavy crops at an early age. At the same time I found Mr. L. P. Kent working along another line and experimenting a definite strain of Coffee by careful selection. This has also reached a finality, and we have "Kent's Arabica" doing as well as "Jackson's Hybrid". These two strains of coffee, of which seed is now on the market, are great improvements on the ordinary Arabica. Which is better I am not prepared to say. I think it depends a good deal on climate and locality. My advice is to try them side by side, and then go for the one that does the best in the particular locality under experiment.

Well now, these coffees being such a success, we have decided to give up the Coonoor plot and have returned it to the Forest Department. All the same I firmly believe that it would pay Coffee Planters to establish a Coffee Breeding Station, just as the Government have established a Paddy Breeding Station and a Sugar Breeding Station, and employ a specialist to do nothing but isolate different strains of Coffee and improve them. Personally I have no time to attend to such work, and, as you know, I have no staff suited to this work.

Many years before I came to this country, the Mysore Planters' Associations discussed the feasibility of establishing an experiment farm. We have arrived at that through several experiments which were not altogether a success, and now I have established four Planting Experiment Stations; one for Coffee at Sidapur in Coorg, one for Tea at Peermade, and two for Rubber on the West Coast. I am just now compiling the Annual Reports on Research Stations which will, this year for the first time, be published as separate publications.

At the Coffee Experiment Station, I have in progress a number of interesting experiments. We have laid down a series of permanent Manurial plots, but it will take some years to get these standardised sufficiently to give reliable results. The shade has to be regulated, vacancies filled up, and so on. On experiments which will now give immediate results, I have side by side two acre plots planted with Jackson's Hybrid and Kent's Arabica respectively. Old moribund coffee was dug out and these coffees put in with more shade. We shall thus be able to try out, side by side under the same conditions, these two new coffees. At present they are about 18 months old and there is little to choose between them. This year we are starting two more plots under the same conditions by the side of these. In one, plants of seed, carefully selected off the best trees on the station itself, will be planted, and on the other the old worn out coffee will be collar pruned and old shade renewed and new stuff planted. My object is to discover the best and most economic way of dealing with and rejuvenating old estates.

I am also conducting some interesting experiments with green dressing and composts. I find that composts made in pits of weed,



ashes, and general rubbish from the cooly lines and bungalow, though giving a manure which does not analyse particularly well, gives one which has a remarkably good and quick effect on the coffee. I have utilised the waste land round the borders of the Station for raising green dressing crops instead of weeds and clearings. These are cut and carried into the coffee and tea. We roughly forked up this land, sowed it down with *Cassia Hersuta*, a leguminous weed which grows very freely in the district, gave it a preferential weeding or two, and soon got a close cover of *Cassia*. This we were able to cut three times in the year, with the result that we got 2,461 lbs. of green manure for 10 cents of land during the year, and an analysis showed that this contained 18 lbs. of Nitrogen, that is to say the amount of Nitrogen contained in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. of Poonac. I am convinced that it would pay to cultivate boundaries and waste lands on estates in green dressings, and carry the material into the coffee or tea, instead of buying Poonac on the coast and transporting it to the estate.

We are carrying out a large series of spraying experiments, this month, on coffee to protect it from leaf disease and other fungoid pests, and to see if weaker solutions can be used with good effect and the process thus be cheapened. Wherever I have seen spraying done at the right time, it has been a success, but it is admittedly expensive, and often labour and water are short at a time when it should be done,

Now let us turn to tea. The problem I am trying to solve at the Tea Experiment Station is how to raise cover crops in the tea with the treble object of, preventing soil erosion, saving the weeding bill, and adding fertility to the soil and reducing the Nitrogen bill. I must confess that so far I have not had much success, because an abnormal drought killed all the crops. Still I hope for ultimate success. On the High Range of Travancore we have now some thousands of acres under cover crops of different kinds. On the steep lands we use *Oxalis corniculata*, the little yellow flowered Wood Sorrel. This is an excellent soil preserver and, being low growing, grass and weeds can easily be pulled out of it. We have made many tests and there is no evidence to show that it does any harm to the tea, and it is changing the appearance of the top soil rapidly and filling it with humus. I do not think, personally, that the violet flowered *Oxalis* does any harm, and have got a plot of tea in the Experiment station under this to test that opinion. Many green dressing crops have been used successfully and are in existence now on different estates, I recommend and them to your attention. *Cassia memosoilles*, *Crotalaris* of various species, *Indigoferus*, *Cassia didymobolna*, and in the Nilgiris *Lupins* have all proved useful.

Now that Tea has got over the financial crisis with which it was faced at the beginning of last year, attention is again being turned to manuring. May I impress on you that manuring of tea also implies good pruning, to get a clean run of sap and fine plucking. Old tea badly pruned in the past, full of knols and snags, should be collar

pruned level with the ground and bucket shaped bushes raised. A few weeks ago I had the opportunity of seeing some tea which was collar pruned four years ago at my advice and which has just been pruned again. The result is all that can be desired in clean wood and good well shaped frames and the yields will be large.

As far as Rubber is concerned you may be interested to know that we have started some seed selection work at the Experiment Station, and are also starting a series of tapping experiments, designed to test out the merits of different systems over complete cycles of bark without change. The great forward step which has been taken in the Rubber world however is the establishment of a Mycologist Station at Mundakayam, with its laboratory, bungalows and separate experiment Stations, and the appointment of a Rubber Mycologist in the person of Mr. Ashplant, who began work there last June. He has taken charge of all questions relating to Rubber diseases.

Another enquiry we have on hand is the possibility of using finely ground lime-stone instead of slaked lime. If the stone can be ground really fine so that most of it were to pass a sieve with 100 meshes to the inch, it has been shown that this material is just as effective as slaked lime, which is really used on account of its fine-ness of division. Messrs. Massey & Co., are conducting some trials with a new grinding machine, which I hope may render the use of ground lime-stone possible, and cheapen the cost of this fertiliser which is so necessary for our soils.

This, gentlemen, is a brief review of some of the work being done by my Department, and I hope it will convince you that we have made an advance, small though it may be, since 1909 when we started from zero.

Mr. Downing in thanking Mr. Anstead for attending the Meeting said how much all members appreciated his visit and the time which he had devoted to the interests of the District. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Anstead for his most interesting address and carried unanimously.

## 5. ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report for the year ending the 31st March, 1922.

*Meetings.* During the past year there have been three Quarterly General Meetings and three Extraordinary General Meetings at which the average attendance was fifteen. With 37 Members this is a very poor average and I hope that in the coming year there will be a better result to quote at the end of it.

*Membership.* Our Association has been very unfortunate in the past year in the loss of three Members to whose relatives we expressed our most sincere sympathy. They were Mr. Harding Pascoe, Mr. G. F. Weston Elwes, and Mr. W. B. De'Coursey. I regret to



have to tell you that Allada Valley Estate, formerly the property of Mr. Elwes, has had to be deleted from our books as from the 1st January 1922. The new proprietors, having the option of continuance of Membership, have decided against doing so. As against this loss, I have had the pleasure of recording two new estate Memberships, namely Attikan and Honnametti Estates, which transferred from the South Mysore Association with effect from the 1st August, 1921. The acreages then stand for the new year at :—

Tea 5,709, Coffee 5,346, a total of 11,055 acres as against :—

Tea 5,775, Coffee 4,331, Rubber 721 and Pepper 11, with a total of 10,938, for the past year.

*Rates of pay.* This matter was brought up at our 1st Quarterly General Meeting, a letter being read from the Nilgiris Wynaad Association. Our Delegates to Bangalore were requested to discuss the matter there. The item is on the Agenda for to-day and I expect will be fully discussed.

*Nilgiris District Board.* The question of compounding of Toll Gate fees has been settled and came into force from the 1st April. This is of great benefit to all Members and should be much appreciated.

*Roads.* There have been no serious complaints recently, but at the 1st Quarterly General Meeting the condition of the roads was adversely criticised. As regards the trunk roads the difficulties of getting these improved can be summed up in a report on the road Board Meeting by Mr. C. H. Brock, which was read at the Meeting in January.

*Recruiting.* There was considerable consternation amongst all Members when the Nilgiris District was, at a General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I., inadvertently allowed to remain as a free District for recruiting purposes.

Owing to the immediate action taken by Mr. Dandison and others, I am glad to say that this was rectified and our interests safeguarded by the District being placed on the list of planting areas and defined as the Nilgiris District.

*S. I. P. Benevolent Fund.* To the appeal this year for Members the result can be considered satisfactory, although there are still more who could assist the Fund.

There are now 18 Subscribers including two Estates and I have received intimation that a third will join shortly. I should like to suggest that the Association also subscribes to the amount of Rs. 25 per annum.

*Kinloch Fund.* This was very generously supported to the amount of Rs. 1,440-6-3. Of this Rs. 1,318-0-0, was forwarded during the year and the balance in hand of Rs. 122-6-3 has since been sent to Mrs. Kinloch.

*Incorporation.* The Articles of Incorporation have not yet been signed, but they will be completed very shortly now and will then be submitted to the Government. This was held up temporarily as new promoters had to be elected during the year.

*Accounts.* The Accounts for the year are before you for your inspection.

The amount of unpaid Subscriptions at the end of the year to the U. P. A. S. I. is regrettably large being Rs. 4,403-8-0, but, of this, two Estates have not paid their Subscriptions for two years, and a third dating back into 1920-21, make a total of Rs. 2,515-11-0.

Against these Estates legal advice has been taken and the U. P. A. S. I. Executive Committee have generously sanctioned our expenses incurred, and every assistance for the recovery of these amounts.

I should now like to thank you for so kindly permitting me to employ a full time man during the last six months. He has been of the greatest assistance to me and I have been able to carry on the work, which would otherwise have been a far more difficult matter. For the coming year I am pleased to say that the Collection of subscriptions is to be carried out at the office of the U. P. A. S. I., at approximately Rs. 15/- per month, and the accounts of out-standing Subscriptions has been sent there.

This will considerably ease the work of your Hon. Secretary, and I therefore suggest that the full time man allowance is cut out and a nominal allowance for overtime assistance be sanctioned.

The accounts were not audited last year, but they have very kindly been audited by Mr. Bayly for the past year who found the accounts correct.

With a moderately good credit balance of Rs. 1500-0-0 in hand, and in view of the fact that the 2 as. cess has again been passed in U. P. A. S. I. Budget, I do not think it necessary to have a Subscription of two annas six pies, but recommend that this be reduced to one anna six pies which will bring in Rs. 1,036-0-0.

This Gentlemen concludes my report and I now place my resignation in your hands.

**S. I. P. B. FUND.** Mr. L. F. Lake, proposed that the Association subscribe Rs. 25-0-0 annually to the S. I. P. Benevolent Fund. This was carried unanimously.

**N. P. A. SUBSCRIPTION.** It was decided against reducing this and the Subscription of two annas six pies was passed.

#### 6. BADUGA LABOUR AND RATES OF PAY.

Mr. A. S. Dandison, who wished to bring this matter to the notice of Members, spoke of the great difficulty he had in obtaining labour at normal rates, and pointed out that if he could only get labour at enhanced rates how much more must the rates be to attract them to other Districts.

Under this, Schedule III of the standardisation of wages and allowances was read over, and the Chair proposed that these maximum rates as laid down in the schedule should be accepted by the Association.

After a long discussion the proposal of acceptance was put to the vote and carried, and it was requested that the Honorary Secretary



should write to all Members of the Association to ascertain what rates were being paid generally in the District, with a view to local standardisation of rates.

A letter from Mr. Hereford was read complaining of the high rates paid by the Government Potatoe Farm adjoining his Estate.

Additional Inter District Rules were then submitted for the acceptance of the Association with the following results.

Rule X. Not accepted, as covered in Schedule III of standardization of Labour Rates.

„ XI. Accepted.

„ XII. Unable to accept this rule, and is left over for further consideration.

„ XIII. Accepted subject to a definition of the term Sub Maistry and Sub Kangany being made by the U. P. A. S. I.

„ XIV. Accepted,

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE U. P. A. S. I. 1922-23.

The result of the ballot was as follows :—

Mr. A. S. Dandison.

Mr. F. H. Farmer.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The result of the ballot was as follows :—

Mr. A. S. Dandison.

Mr. A. K. Weld. Downing.

It was proposed and carried that the Honorary Secretary should also attend.

8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE FOR 1922-23.

The following Office Bearers were elected for the ensuing year :—

1. Mr. A. S. Dandison Chairman.

2. Mr. J. B. Vernede Vice Chairman.

3. F. H. Farmer Honorary Secretary

Committee.

Messrs. A. K. Weld. Downing,

„ E. Sydenham Clarke,

„ W. A. Cherry,

„ N. J. Stanes, and

„ P. Reed.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter was read from the Annamallai Planters' Association in reply to our request for particulars of Baduga Labour connections from the Nilgiris.

Read letter from Mr. S. Bayly re accounts. A vote of thanks to Mr. Bayly for auditing the accounts was carried unanimously.

Letter regretting inability to attend was received from Mr. E. Sydenham Clarke.

With votes of thanks to the Chairman, and to the Collector for the use of the room, the Meeting terminated.

A. K. WELD DOWNING,

Chairman.

F. H. FARMER,

Hon. Secretary.

## CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Central Travancore Planters' Association held at the Travellers' Bungalow, Peermade, on Saturday the 6th: May 1922, at 2 P. M.

*Present.* Mr. E. C. Sylvester (Chairman), Messrs. J. S. Wilkie, R. J. McMullin, H. C. Westaway, J. H. Cantlay, G. S. Napier Ford, H. Clarke, W. A. J. Milner, R. Tait, G. P. Farley, C. Patterson, M. R. Coghlan, R. E. Haslam, G. Newton, R. C. Elers, J. M. Wilkie, A. V. Mawer, R. F. Vinen, W. B. Glenie, J. F. Fraser, C. N. Ricketts, J. Wedderspoon and A. R. St: George (Hon: Secy).

*Visitors.* Messrs. A. H. Mead and T. D. Dixon.

1. (a) The Minutes of the last General Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.
- (b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 11th March 1922 were taken as read and confirmed.
- (c) The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 29th: April 1922 were read to the Meeting, and confirmed.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS. The Chairman addressed the Meeting as follows :—

“ During the past year the market for Tea has greatly improved and this, combined with low rate of exchange, has enabled us to recover from the difficulties with which we were faced last year. Restriction of Crop was loyally adhered to by the majority of estates, and the past year has seen such an improvement in our Manufacture that our Teas now compare more than favourably with other Teas from similar elevations.

*Crop.* Crop has been short during the past six months due, chiefly, to unfavourable climatic conditions; the long drought to which we have been subjected to for the past four months has at last been broken with a few very welcome showers, which have saved the situation both as regards our water supplies and, we will hope, our crop as well.

“ *Labour.* Most Estates had sufficient Labour during the past year, but there are still a few estates short now, and I hope this state of affaris will be rectified ere long. The Report of the Lobour Commis-sion is before you to-day for discussion, and I hope that your constructive criticism of same will place your delegates to the U. P. A. S. I. in possession of the opinion of the District. We owe a very hearty vote of thanks to the Gentlemen who formed the Labour Commission and, at great inconvenience to themselves, carried out their work so thoroughly.

“ *Transport.* Unfortunately the Ropeway is not yet working, but in spite of the long drought, I do not think many Estates suffered from a lack of carts.

“ *Rice.* This has been fairly easily obtained, but the price is still so high as to cause us a heavy loss on issue.

“ *Roads.* It is regettable that although the money for widening the Church Hill road was voted in the last Travancore Budget practi-cally nothing has been done during the past nine months.



"*Planters' Benevolent Fund.* This has not been supported nearly as strongly as I had hoped and as it should have been, and I trust that before the meeting closes all members present will put their names down as subscribers. To regard the subscription from the selfish point of view alone, it is a form of insurance which every planter should support.

"*S. I. Nursing Association.* This is another very deserving institution which should be heartily supported, especially by married men. In cases of sickness, and we are none of us immortal, the charges for a trained nurse are very low to subscribers and the annual subscription, which is only Rs. 25/-, would be saved in a few days.

"*S. P. M. R.* During the year the local unit of the A. F. I. held a camp at Karavanuth, which was attended by 14 members out of a total strength of about 28, and this cannot be very encouraging for the Officer Commanding the Peermade Patrol, so it is hoped that future camps will see a parade strength of at least 75 percent of the members.

"During the year we have suffered a great loss by the death of the late D. McArthur whose end was as sudden as it was unexpected to us all. Our deepest sympathies are for his sorrowing relatives.

"I have to thank you all for your attendance at meetings in the past and today, and for the assistance and support you have given me. I also have to thank our Honorary Secretary very heartily for all the good work he has put in on behalf of the Association. An Hon; Secy's task is at the best a thankless one, and I will ask you to pass a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. St. George for the expeditious way in which he has tackled the business of the Association, and especially that connected with our Incorporation.

"I now place my resignation in your hands."

### 3. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT:—

"*Meetings.* During the past year under Report there have been 4 General Meetings, 2 Extraordinary General Meetings and one Committee Meeting. The total attendance at the four General Meetings amounted to 43 and at the 2 Extraordinary General Meetings 28.

"*Membership.* The Association consists of 26 Estates with a planted acreage of 14,134.81 acres in Tea, and in Cardamoms 35 acres. This shows a decrease of 0.41 acres over last year.

"*Crop.* The crop for the Calander year 1921 amounted to 5,647,972 lbs. on mature acreage of 13550.69 or 417 lbs. per acre, compared to 7,088,414 lbs. or 532 lbs. per acre last year. In the above figures I have taken all Tea planted up to and including 1918 as mature. The decrease in crop and yield is, I think, chiefly accounted for by bad climatic conditions, also to a certain amount of restriction. The Season was also abnormal, the usual drought at the beginning of the year, and a weak Monsoon in June, August and September.

"*Accounts.* These have been kindly audited by Mr. Milner, and are on the table. I shall be glad to answer any questions with reference to these when they are discussed later on.

"*Ladour.* The Report of the Labour Commission is down on the Agenda for discussion, so it is not necessary for me to say anything here, except that this is always an anxious problem to most of

us, and the Report shows that if we want more labour, and a better Department, we will have to pay accordingly.

*"Roads.* Work has been started on the Peermade-Devicolam Road, but I am afraid the work has not got on so far as we hoped it would this time last year.

*"Transport.* I do not think this has caused much trouble. Most Estates have their carts, and the Motor Transport Company's Lorries have been running regularly to Bottom Station, Mundakayam.

*"Opening of Dam Sluices.* Although we applied for these to be opened over a year ago during the Months of March, April and May for at least 5 Minutes every week nothing eventuated. I was therefore agreeably surprised to hear from the Dam Superintendent, Thekady, a short time ago, that he had received orders to open these once a week for 5 minutes.

*"Rice.* The supply and transport of this has, to the best of my knowledge, caused no trouble during the year under review, and rice has also been very much cheaper.

*"Incorporation.* These papers have been signed, and we are an Incorporated body.

*"Cess 1922-1923.* A cess of 3 annas per acre should cover expenditure for the year.

*"Moplah Rebellion.* Fortunately, I think I am correct in saying, this did not affect us in the least. Everything went on normally in Peermade and Vandiperiyar, the reason being that practically no Moplah Labour is employed up here. At the same time precautions were taken, and we did get up arms and ammunition, including 2 Lewis Guns. This at any rate did start keenness amongst members of the S. P. M. R., and Lewis Gun classes have been held weekly at both ends of the District for some considerable time. A word of thanks is due to Capt. R. E. Haslam and his N. C. O's for the trouble and time they have taken, organising and, I trust putting into a state of efficiency, the Peermade Patrol.

4. ACCOUNTS. The accounts for the year ending 31st. March 1922, having been previously distributed to all members, it was proposed by Mr. J. S. Wilkie and seconded by G. S. Napier Ford "That the accounts for the year ending 31st. March 1922 be passed." *Carried.*

5. CORRESPONDENCE. Read letter from the Ag. Chief Secretary to Government re the opening of the Periyar Dam Sluices, (2) Read letter from Superintendent Mlamalla Estate requesting to become a member of the C. T. P. A. and also letter withdrawing his request. (3) Read letter from Superintendent Twyford Estate re the Bonami Post Office, "with a view to re-opening the question with the Authorities." After some discussion, it was decided that this matter could not be brought up at present. (4) Read letter from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. re hours of work and Association's reply. (5) Read letter from Mrs. Kirk.

6. SRI-MULAM DELEGATE'S REPORT. Mr. R. Tait read his report as follows:- At your request I attended the Srimulam Popular Assembly



which commenced at Trivandrum on 27th: February last, and on instructions from the Honorary Secretary, I also attended the Travancore Combined Planters' Association's Meeting which took place at Quilon on the 25th: of last February.

"The Subjects you instructed me to bring forward at the Sri Mulam were : —

1. The damage to life and property by wild Elephants.
2. The Roads in Peermade and Vandiperiyar Districts.

"As regards the damage caused by wild Elephants, I explained that they were increasing in number, and that regarding Vandiperiyar District generally, the loss and damage taking place to-day is greater than it has ever been in the past, and I asked the Dewan what Government proposed doing in the matter.

"Briefly the Dewan's reply was to the effect that evidence of damage done will be accepted as a satisfactory reason for shooting an elephant.

"With reference to the Roads in Peermade and Vandiperiyar District, I brought this subject up under two headings:—

"The first was the Kottayam Kumili Road, and on this road I referred to the quite unnecessary large number of deep cross drains between the 46th: and 60th: Miles, and the desirability of making more safe some of the very sharp corners between the 35th: and 60th: miles.

"The Dewan replied that these points would be attended to, and he also explained that, after the Ropeway was working, more money would be available for the improvements of the cross drains and the corners.

"The Peermade Devicolam Road was the last subject I brought up, and I reminded the Dewan that his Government had promised to spend Rs. 10,000 - on the remaking of this Road before August next, and that, so far, absolutely nothing whatever had been done to the Road.

"I also pointed out that the Superintendent of Stagbrook Estate, as the Contractor for the up-keep of the first two Sections of this road, had had stipulations put into his agreement this year which had nothing whatever to do with up-keep, but were extensive alterations to the Road, and that consequently he had refused to sign the agreement, and that, in the opinion of this Association, very properly so.

"In reply the Dewan stated that he could not understand why a start had not long ago been made on this road, and at the moment he regretted that he was unable to give me an explanation for the delay but that the whole matter would have his immediate attention."

The Chairman thanked Mr. Tait for so ably representing the Association at the Assembly, and his expenses were voted.

7. **TIMBER VALUES.**—Mr. Richardson's last communication with Government was read, and it was decided that nothing could be done till Government's reply was forthcoming.

8. **ROADS.**—The Hon: Secy. read the letter written to the Chief Engineer, Travancore, as instructed to write at the last General Meeting,

re the proposed Peermade-Devicolam Road, viz:—the improving and remetalling of the 1st: Section, and also letter from the Chief Secretary to Government to the Chief Engineer, in reply. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Honorary Secretary, Peermade Road Committee, asking him to again approach the Chief Engineer, as nothing up to date has been done to the Section in question.

9. C. T. P. A. 1922-23 CESS.—Proposed from the Chair “That a cess of 3 annas per acre be levied for the ensuing year”. *Carried.*

10. LABOUR.—(a) *Plucking Rates.* Proposed by Mr. H. C. Westaway and seconded by Mr. J. F. Fraser that the resolution passed by the Committee be adopted and accepted by the Meeting. *Carried:—*

“That the Committee recommend to the General Meeting that plucking rates may be increased to 3½ pies per pound throughout the year, and that Maimallai and Woodlands Estates only may be increased to 4 pies per pound.”

(b) The Chairman having pointed out to the Meeting that, under the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Rules, every District Association had to appoint a standing Labour Committee, it was proposed by Mr. J. S. Wilkie and seconded by Mr. C. N. Ricketts :—

“That the standing Labour Committee, proposed by the Committee, and consisting of Messrs, G. S. Napier Ford, J. H. Cantlay, H. C. Westaway and J. F. Fraser be adopted”. *Carried.*

(c) Read letter from the Superintendent, Stagbrook Estate, enclosing extract of letter from the Chief Agent, U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department, Nagercoil, to the Superintendent, Stagbrook Estate. It was decided that nothing could be done, as the offenders are not known, but the Honorary Secretary was instructed to publish the extract referred to:—

“Packianathen informs me that he advanced some coolies but they have returned the money to him, as some other Estate Kangs. have given them big advances than what Packianathen gave them, and thereby he lost his coolies. I send you enclosed his written statement, contents of which you will note. In this connection I beg to say that, this year, some of the Estates in Peermade, who are recruiting their coolies this side, have increased the rate of advance per cooly, and I am afraid this may be the reason that some of your Kanganies have returned their advance, as they were not able to compete the other Estate Kanganies. I beg to bring this matter strongly that, unless the rate of advance among subscribers, who are recruiting their coolies in the same area, is brought to some average limit there will be always trouble among Kanganies, and there is every likelihood of increasing the coolies debts, as the coolies will try to receive advances from more than one Kang. without settling the previous advance.

(d) *Labour Commission Report.* This was gone through and discussed. The Chairman pointed out that a lot of the items were a matter of funds, and therefore the meeting could not make any definite suggestions at present.



*Using the Department for making Advances.* The meeting was unanimously in support of advances being given through the Labour Department.

*Labour Disputes between subscribers.* The meeting was strongly of opinion that Divisional Labour Superintendents should not be mediators, and that in case of disputes information should be given by the Labour Superintendent to the Labour Standing Committee of the District concerned.

*Reorganisation.* The meeting was in favour of the Director of Labour being under the Executive Committee, that the location of Offices should remain at Coimbatore, and that U. P. A. S. I. should pay a proportion of the Planting Members expenses.

It was further agreed that the Labour Commission Report would have to be thoroughly gone into by the Committee at some future date for guidance of the Bangalore Delegates.

11. PROPOSED MUNSIFF'S COURT AT ARUDAY. This Item was struck off the Agenda.

12. P. B. FUND AND SOUTH INDIAN NURSING ASSCN. A subscription list was passed round the room.

13. ELECTION OF C. T. P. A. OFFICE BEARERS.

Chairman. Mr. E. C. Sylvester.

Hon. Secretary. Mr. W. A. J. Milner.

*Committee.*

Messrs. J. H. Cantly,

„ J. F. Fraser,

„ G. S. Napier Ford,

„ R. J. McMullin,

„ H. C. Westaway,

„ J. S. Wilkie and J. M. Wilkie.

*Auditors.* To be chosen, at the next meeting.

14. *Election of Delegates for Bangalore.* Messrs. E. C. Sylvester and J. S. Wilkie.

15. ELECTION OF UPASI GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Messrs. E. C. Sylvester and J. S. Wilkie.

16. TRAVANCORE COMBINED P. A. The accounts were passed round the room: the Hony. Secy. pointing out that the Annual Subscription had been reduced from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 15/- and that Mr. Tait was now the Chairman, having succeeded Mr. J. R. Vincent, resigned.

17. Proposed by Mr. H. G. Westaway and seconded by Mr. J. S. Wilkie "That a hearty vote of thanks be passed to the Chairman and Honorary Secretary for their work during the past year." Carried.

The Meeting then terminated.

E. C. SYLVESTER.

Chairman.

A. R. St. GEORGE.

Honorary Secretary.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 16. (7—13 May).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, returned to Coimbatore on 10th May. Mr. Anstead leaves next week for an extended tour along the West Coast, during which he pays inspection visits to the Rubber and Tea Experiment Stations. He will be accompanied during this tour, by Mr. E. Ballard, the Government Entomologist, who is going to look at insect pests of estates generally, and Mosquito Blight on Tea in particular.

It will be remembered that Mr. Billard wrote a note in the Planters' Chronicle on this tea pest a short time ago, and he is now taking up its study and going to see it on the estates. It is usually bad in June, during which month Travancore estates will be visited. Mr. Anstead will be away till the end of June.

## 2: THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (30 April—6 May).

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, 1.41 inches of rain were recorded during the week distributed over 5 days. As noted last week, the best part of an inch of rain fell on the open blossom on 30th April, and this it is feared, has done a good deal of damage and crop prospects are not good. This is the third year in succession in which there has been rain on the open blossom at the Station. Preparation is being made to carry out some spraying experiments at Perchi Cadu Estate, and the Assistant Farm Manager is helping the Mycological Assistant to lay out the plots.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, only 0.54 inch of rain was received during the week. This is disappointing as rain is so badly needed, and the effect of the good shower last week had been spoiled by the subsequent continued drought. 538 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 8.81 acre. *Crotalaria striata* plants have been put out into plot 15 and *Tephrosia candida* seed sown.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, there was 1.19 inches of rain distributed over 4 days. This enabled green dressings to be sown.

*Centrosema plumieri* and *Desmodium rufescens* have been sown for trial in the seed selection plot and some of the latter also under the shade of old rubber. Tapping was begun on Plot No. 16, which is rested during the monsoon months of July and August. Regular tapping on the other plots will not begin till 1st June.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, only two light showers amounting to 0.06 inch were received. Tapping was begun on 1st May in Plots 1 to 19, both the permanent manurial series and the new tapping series.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 17. (14—20 May).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left Coimbatore on 19th, to go to Trichur from which place he paid a visit of inspection to the Cochin Rubber Company on 21st. On 22nd, he will proceed to Mooply and from there to Mundakayam and Peermade, which latter district he will reach about 1st June. Mr. Anstead is accompanied on this tour by the Government Entomologist, who is going to look at insect pests on the estates in general, and Mosquito Blight of Tea in particular.

## 2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (7—13 May).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, a total of 1'80 inches of rain was recorded during the week, 1'60 inches of this fell in about two hours during a big storm on the evening of 10th, and several dead trees have been blown down. Compost manures have been applied to the coffee planted in the old road sections. A supply of sulphur has been received, and a mixture of lime and sulphur is being made up to disinfect the soil in which basket plants are being grown to protect them from the attack of Mealy Bug. The Assistant Farm Manager is helping the Mycological Assistant with the spraying experiments being carried out in Perchicadu Estate.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a good shower was received at the end of the week and the total rain gauged was 1'24 inches. This rain was very badly needed and the tea has begun to flush again. The drought has been long and severe. From 20th November to 28th December, there was no rain. At the end of December 1'23 inches and only 0'22 inch in January. At the beginning of February there was 2'17 inches, but no rain at all from 2nd to 20th February. On 6th March we got 1'04 inches, and between 11th and 30th April 1'24 inches. 651 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 10½ acres. Advantage has been taken of the rain to hand weed the station and give the green dressing crops a chance.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, 1'61 inches of rain were recorded. *Tephrosia candida* in Plot 18 was lopped and 4,880 lbs. of material obtained per acre, which was used as a mulch.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, 3'28 inches of rain fell during the week. Tapping was begun on the first of the month. During the week, 545 trees, tapped daily one cut on one third section, gave 86'2 lbs. of wet sheet and 6'75 lbs. of wet scrap, or 0'17 lb. per tree. An experiment has been begun to contrast morning and evening tapping. 32 trees tapped in the morning gave 3'64 lbs. of wet sheet and 0'34 lbs. of wet scrap, a yield of 0'124 lb. per tree, and 60 trees tapped in the evening gave 2'33 lbs. of wet sheet and 0'92 lb. of wet scrap, a yield of only 0'054 lb. per tree, but evening tapping was interfered with on two occasions by rain.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

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*[The "Planters' Chronicle" is not responsible for the opinions of its correspondents.]*

## RE-ORGANISATION OF THE U. P. A. S. I.

Sir,

I read Mr. Murphy's letter in your last issue with interest. I cannot, however, understand why it should be necessary for the U. P. A. S. I. as such, to have to subsidize any department like the Labour Department or the Special Rubber Mycologist. On the other hand, I am thoroughly in accord with Capt. Windle's opinion, that we should each pay for what we need.

Why should the following be impossible?

1. The U. P. A. S. I. to collect sufficient to pay for its ordinary working. In fact to be run on much the same lines as in the days before "re-organisations."

2. The Labour Department to collect enough subscriptions, based on a budget from the Director, to allow it to carry out all its activities.

3. The Special Rubber Mycologist. This department to be run on the same lines as the Labour Department. The Mycologist himself drawing up his estimate.

This means that those who require neither the Labour Department nor the Rubber Mycologist would only be asked to subscribe to the U. P. A. S. I. itself. That those who require the Labour Department would be called on to subscribe to it and to the U. P. A. S. I. That those who do not need the Labour Department but do want the Mycologist would pay for the Mycologist and for the U. P. A. S. I. In some cases it might be necessary to pay for the U. P. A. S. I., and both departments.

There would be a committee for each department elected by its subscribers to whom the head of each Department would be responsible.

The above only outlines what seems to me more likely to make for harmony among all the members of the U. P. A. S. I., than suggestions of subsidies and indirect advantages.

E. H. HALLILEY.

17TH MAY 1922.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated,

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

VOL. XVII. No. 22.]

JUNE 3, 1922.

[PRICE AS. 8.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE.

(BY CABLE).

London, 26th MAY, 1922.

118s. per cwt. Market Dull.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

### MOULDY RUBBER.

Now that tapping has been begun on many estates and the monsoon is approaching, the subject of mould on rubber will assume importance. Investigations of this subject over several years show that rubber arrives in England mouldy for three reasons :—

- (1) insufficient drying and incorrect curing in the factory,
- (2) because it gets wet after leaving the smoke house or drying room during the process of packing,
- (3) because it gets wet in the case during transport.

It has been found that the protein contained in the serum is a very suitable medium for moulds to grow in, and consequently, sheet rubber should be well washed both before and after rolling to remove

this serum. The rolling forces the serum left in the spongy coagulum to the surface and this should be washed off. It would appear to be a good plan to wash the coagulum before rolling for 6 or 7 hours and again washed for an hour after rolling. Running water is preferable, but if this is not available, the water should be frequently changed. After washing, the rolled sheets should be allowed to drip for 7 or 8 hours before they are removed to the smoke house.

Smoking should be continued till a fine amber colour is produced and, if not at that stage fully dry, the sheets should be removed to a hot air drying room without smoke till they are quite dry. On some estates a second washing is done when the sheets are removed from the smoke house, the object being to get rid of rust. Smoking takes, as a rule, from 8 to 10 days at a temperature of about 100°F, and the final drying about 5 days at a temperature of about 90°F.

The next point of importance to note is that the dry rubber should not be allowed to absorb moisture during the packing process. Packing is too often done in the factory itself, where there is a moist atmosphere from wet floors. During the monsoon the air is saturated with moisture, and the dry rubber will quickly absorb enough moisture to promote the growth of moulds.

The packing room should be separate from the factory and continuous with the hot air rooms and should itself be heated with dry hot air. The chests should be stored in this room and the rubber should be packed warm and quite dry.

Owing to the fact that much of the rubber has to be transported over long distances, there is a danger of the cases getting wet during transport to the coast. They are often, unavoidably, exposed to rain. I have opened cases at the end of their journey to the coast and found actual free water in them, so no wonder the rubber is mouldy by the time it reaches the home market. Only the very best made Venusta cases can resist this.

Undoubtedly, the best way to get over this difficulty is to pack the rubber, especially during the monsoon, in lead lined cases. Some experiments tried last year with rubber thus packed showed that it got home without being mouldy. A consignment of 23 cases was sent home from one estate. 20 of these were lead lined and 3 not so lined as a control. The rubber in all these three arrived mouldy, of the 20 lead lined cases 18 arrived in perfectly good condition without any signs of mould, and in the other two there was mould, but the lining had been torn.

This experiment seems to show without doubt that lead lining is effective and will overcome this trouble about mouldy rubber.

Most of the so called defects of rubber are merely matters of appearance, and do not influence the vulcanising properties of the rubber, but as rubber is sold entirely on its appearance or brand, and



not on actual quality, small defects such as mould and rust are of considerable importance. Keen buyers may force down the price of the rubber by 10 or 20 per cent. merely on surface appearance.

Now, the depreciation in price due to mould last year averaged about two pence per pound, say 10 cents. The price of 4 oz. tea lead fluctuates round Rs. 70 per case of 2 cwts., ex-godown Calicut, and this is sufficient to line 50 cases, 24 x 19 x 19. Take the cost of the lead at Rs. 75 including cost of transport. The cost then comes to Rs. 1-8-0 per case. Add eight annas for making, soldering, etc., a generous allowance, and call it at Rs. 2 per case of 160 lbs. of rubber. This adds 0'2 annas per lb. to the cost of the rubber, or 1½ cents. Hence, we are spending 1½ cents to save 10 cents, a practical proposition.

The one defect of tea lead is that it is not quite strong enough for the purpose, and unless great care is taken and the rubber packed very tightly, it is apt to tear and let in moisture followed, of course, by mould. This is what happened to two of the cases in our trial lot. The Empire Aluminium lining supplied by the Acme Tea Chest Co., Ltd., seems to be a better material for the purpose and a good deal stronger. Though it cannot be soldered, a water tight joint can be made by an ingenious system of folding and the price seems to be about the same as that for tea lead.

Tea lead, on the other hand, has this in its favour that a sale can be found from the lead received from the cases at home after they are unpacked. 89'6 lbs. of tea lead were used to line our 20 experimental cases and 88 lbs. of lead were received from them after they had been unpacked at home.

We would strongly advise those who, in past years, have been troubled with mould on their rubber on its arrival at home, to try this method of sending it in lined cases. If rubber is well washed before and after rolling, and is then thoroughly dried in the smoke house, and packed dry into dry lined chests in a dry room, it will arrive quite free from this defect.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture,

Planting Districts,

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

REPORT OF COIMBATORE DIVISION, MAY 1922.

*Weather.* The weather has changed since last month when it was hot and dry, now it is cooler, all the Tamil District having experienced short heavy showers. Great banks of clouds which have been rolling up in the evenings, promising an early monsoon here, have cleared off, but a strong S. W. wind is blowing.

*Labour.* The cotton crop is all in, but as the labour employed in this line of agriculture can very rarely be persuaded to go to Estates, the effect on estate Labour is not appreciable. The ryots cultivating other crops are busily engaged in manuring, for which work the coolies receive wages as follows :—

Men Rs. -/8/-

Women Rs. -/6/-

This rate is standard throughout the Tamil District, but practically everywhere the coolies receive the major portion of this pay in kind instead of cash. Round Erode rates are higher, Rs. -/10/- and Rs. -/8/- being paid to men and women respectively. This is due to the railway employing hundreds of local coolies and paying the high rates, thus forcing the Municipality to do the same and so, in turn, the ryots.

Coolies appear to be on the move early this year. Last month many small gangs have gone up to the Estates, and this month many more are on their way. As far as can be seen at present the number of coolies available will vary very little from last year. Labour from Attur is not, in my opinion, turning out at all successful, and is giving a lot of trouble. Further recruiting from there cannot be recommended. Coolies are available round Bhavani and Perundurai but not Maistries, and it is very difficult to effect any new connections in those parts.

*Price of Grains.*

*Rice* is selling for the same price as last year :—

4 Madras Measures per the Rs. 1/- for inferior quality.

*Raggi* is somewhat cheaper this year :—

7-8 Madras Measures per the Rs. 1/- for inferior quality.

*Cholam.* has varied very little from last year :—

5 Madras Measures per the Rs. 1/-

On the whole the prices of last year for all grains are maintained and are high compared with former years.

*Health.* Small-pox has been bad practically throughout the District, but is now dying out, except in some of the smaller villages where they are very slow in getting the disease under control.

There have been cases of Cholera everywhere in the District, and in some places it has been virulent.

J. H. BENNET



## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

*EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING  
OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE held on 9—5—22.*

*Regulation of Sales.*—This subject had been considered at a meeting of the London Committee held on 7th April 1922 when it was unanimously agreed to keep the weekly offerings down, if possible, to 40,000 packages per week and the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That for the weeks commencing 24th April and 1st May members are recommended to print a quantity equivalent to not more than one-eighteenth part weekly of the unsold balance of their total crops for 1921, after the sale of the week commencing 3rd April 1922. Further that any private sales effected during the above-mentioned period (including sales in Calcutta either public or private) should be deducted from the quantity to be sold in public auction.

*Canadian Sales Tax.*—In their letter dated 12th January, the London Association advised that the question of the Canadian Sales Tax on imports was being taken up both by the London Chamber of Commerce and by the Imperial Commercial Association. It was now reported that a deputation from the Tea Buyers Association, the Indian Tea Association, the Ceylon Association and the South Indian Association had, on 14th April, waited on the High Commissioner for Canada. The Indian Tea Association were represented by the Chairman and the South Indian Association by Mr. R. Graham. Mr. Crosfield of the Tea Buyers Association, acting as spokesman of the deputation, had pointed out that the tax was a considerable handicap to the export trade of the Port of London. He had pointed out further the anomaly of the tax which was never anticipated to act in the way it had, hitting, as it does, exporters of tea to Canada in a particularly hard way. After some discussion the High Commissioner, who stated that he was entirely in sympathy with the views of the deputation, suggested that the representations of the deputation should be put in the form of a letter which he would forward to Government, supporting it as strongly as he could. Any fresh developments in the position were to be communicated to this Association.

*Ocean freight agreement.*—With reference to the new agreement with the Conference, the London Association stated in their letter of 20th April that they had not yet received the draft agreement from the Lines and that a further communication on the subject had been despatched to Messrs. J. B. Westray & Co., as the time was then becoming short, the new agreement being due to take effect as from 15th May. Messrs. J. B. Westray & Co. had replied that they had circulated the London Association's letter to the Lines and hoped to be able to send a reply in a few days.

**The Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1922.**—It was mentioned in the proceedings of the Committee meeting held on 28th March that the Committee had under consideration the publication, for the guidance of garden managers, of a note on the above Act in so far as it will apply to tea factories after 1st July 1922. The issuing of this note had, however, been postponed for the time being. Letters on the subject had been sent to the Assam and Surma Valley Branches and to the Dooars Planters Association, the Darjeeling Planters Association and the Terai Planters Association, suggesting that it might be helpful if a meeting could be arranged at an early date in Calcutta between representatives of the industry and the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal, with a view to discussing questions arising out of the new Act, specially as regards the power given to local Governments to exempt from specific clauses of the Act, particular classes of factories or classes of work in a factory.

A complete set of replies had now been received from the various Branches and Associations. The Dooars Planters Association, the Darjeeling Planters Association and the Terai Planters Association, were all willing to send a representative to Calcutta to attend a meeting such as was proposed by this Association. The Surma Valley Branch replied to the effect that the Government of Assam had asked the opinion of that Association on the subject of the application of the new Act to tea factories and had sent a list of seven questions for an expression of opinion. This list had been passed on to all Chairmen of District Committees whose replies when received would be considered in framing a reply to the Government of Assam.

The Assam Branch had replied enclosing a copy of the same letter referred to by the Surma Valley Branch from the Government of Assam and also a copy of that Branch's reply to the Assam Government. A copy was also forwarded of a circular on the subject issued by the Branch to its members in the same connection.

The Committee now agreed to circularise members with the text of the old and new Acts in parallel columns. In doing so it was to be mentioned that the Committee hoped to be able to make, at an early date some observations regarding the application of the amended Act to Tea Factories. Meantime the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal, with a view to arranging an early meeting for a discussion of several points in connection with the Act.

A letter dated 5th May on the same subject had been received from the United Planters Association of Southern India asking the intentions of this Association regarding the claiming of exemptions under the new Act, and as to the publishing of the new Act for the information of members. This letter had not been seen by the entire Committee and it was now to be continued in circulation.



**Tea Sales.**—A copy of a circular No. 8, dated 4th May had been received from the Calcutta Tea Traders intimating that the first tea sale of the new season will be held on 30th May and the second on 13th June 1922.

The Committee directed that this information should be published for the information of members and should also be wired to London.

**Ocean freight agreement : Tea rate for May 1922.**—A letter dated 4th May from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce announced that the tea rate for May would be £2-11-3. This was intimated to members as usual and the information cabled to the London Association and to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

Having regard to the London Association's advices in the letter dated 20th April, which is reviewed earlier in these proceedings, that the new agreement with the Lines which was being fixed by the London Association with the Conference at Home was due to come into force as from 16th May, the Committee directed, pending the receipt from London of the terms of the agreement as actually signed by the contracting parties, that a letter should be sent to the Conference pointing out the present position, and asking them to wire Home for instructions in the matter. It was to be added that shippers here would only pay the intimated May rate under protest subject to adjustment at Home in respect of the reduced rate from 16th May 1922.

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## INCOME TAX ON TEA ESTATES.

The following draft of an amendment to the Indian Income Tax Rules, 1922, has been published by the Board of Inland Revenue, Government of India, under date, Simla, 22nd May 1922, and notice has been given that the said draft will be taken into consideration on or after the 10th July 1922.

### DRAFT AMENDMENT.

The following proviso shall be added to rule 23 of the said rules :—

“ Provided that in the case of income derived from the joint production and sale of tea, the amount to be deducted for the purpose of this rule shall be 75 per cent of the gross income received from such combined production and sale.”

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.		Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.		America.	Australia.
	lbs.	...	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	...	lbs.	lbs.
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	203
Calicut	...	...	12,298	399,430	1,200	...	...	...
Cochin	...	...	3,482	639,014	3,300	...	...	...
Mangalore	...	...	1,200	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry	...	...	...	59,560	30	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	205,143	...	...	...	760,809	...
Totals	...	...	16,980.	1,098,004.	4,580.	...	760,809.	203

Grand Total Exports ... 2,097,330 lbs.





## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.		Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	America.
	lbs.	...	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Calicut	...	...	13,766	19,542	...	...
Cochin	...	...	4,375	135,037	...	...
Alleppey	...	...	...	...	...	71,925
Tuticorin	...	...	18,973	920	...	11,656
Total this month	...	2,285	37,114	155,499	...	83,581
From 1-1-1922 to 31-3-1922.	...	207,033	276,946	854,466	79,841	430,791
Total from 1-1-1922 to 30-4-22	...	209,318	314,060	1,009,965	79,841	514,372.
Grand Total Exports						2,127,556 lbs.



**RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.**

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for April 1922.

**IMPORTS.**

FROM	MARCH.			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
Malaya	3,425	4,591	4,622	9,732	15,885	14,127
Ceylon and India	1,148	2,589	2,361	4,088	6,647	7,613
Dutch East Indies, etc.	611	1,418	429	1,546	4,097	2,187
Brazil and Peru	168	342	1,564	798	852	1,992
Other Countries	45	64	233	162	302	625
<i>Total Tons.</i>	5,397	9,004	9,209	16,326	27,783	26,544

**EXPORTS.**

TO	MARCH.			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
U. S. of America	1,634	999	5,484	11,389	1,311	14,507
Canada	61	—	298	185	11	1,232
France	1,344	463	1,968	4,084	930	3,826
Belgium	119	23	250	348	207	787
Italy	261	58	467	585	263	853
Germany, Austria, Hungary	1,038	419	286	2,545	1,617	640
Other Countries	294	87	137	621	778	611
<i>Total Tons.</i>	4,751	2,049	8,890	19,757	5,117	22,456

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and  
Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the  
month of MARCH.

		LANDED.	DELIVERED.	STOCKS 31ST MARCH.		
		FOR MARCH	FOR MARCH	1922	1921	1920
London	Plantation	5,122	6,055	66,536	63,513	20,204
	Other Grades	—	23	134	400	565
Liverpool	Plantation	762	741	7,162	5,423	1,384
	Para and Peru	95	160	1,065	1,122	816
	Other Grades	—	8	435	460	377
<i>Totals London and Liverpool.</i>		5,982	6,987	75,332	70,918	23,346

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**MARKET REPORT.**

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co., quote as follows from Messrs. Leslie & Anderson's Report of 4th May:—

**COFFEE.** There is no fresh feature to report in our market. Fairly large quantities have been offered in Auctions this week, the values for good to fine qualities being well maintained, whilst rough and lower grades are less easy to dispose of, at recent valuations.

**TEA.** The chief topic of interest this week has been the Budget statement when a reduction of nominally 4d. per lb., in Duty was announced. The reduction really works out as  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  off 1s., for Foreign teas-4d. per lb., and  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  percent off 10d. per lb., on British grown tea.

The quantities brought forward at Auctions this week were again large. The Budget announcement was not known in time for the Auctions on the 1st instant. when the market remained steady for good to fine qualities though medium and lower grades ruled in favour of Buyers.

At the Auctions of Ceylon teas on 2nd inst., after the Budget statement the market shewed a weakness to the extent of 1 d. per lb. and this weakness extended to the Indian Teas in Auctions yesterday. This weakness is accounted for by several reasons: that the shipments of Ceylon tea coming forward are reported to be very heavy and probably similar conditions apply to Indian teas. A further reason is that the Trade will not stock further teas until they have disposed of their pre-Budget stock. A third reason is that qualities now coming forward are barely so good as earlier in the season. For ourselves, we think have seen the highest prices for the present, though we hope that the decline may not be serious.

**CARDAMOMS.** The market continues good and full prices are being paid for all grades.

**RUBBER.** Since our last report the market for rubber has been exceptionally stagnant, the value of spot and near delivery varying from 8 5/8d. or  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 8 3/8d. The recent increase of stock, which now totals 68600 tons, has caused disappointment, as it had been confidently expected in many quarters that the large quantities of rubber bought, just before and after Easter, were for immediate shipment.

Present quotations are as follows :—

July/Sept, 9d, - 9 1/8d. and Oct/Dec. 9 3/8d.

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Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## BASIC SLAG PROBLEMS.

A Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, which has been investigating this question, obtained results from steelmakers of their production of slag in 1920, and found that something like a sixth only of the amount of high-grade slag turned out before the war is being produced now; and that even this small amount cannot be relied on in future. There is however a larger output of lower grades of slag than in the pre-war period.

The 260,000 tons of high-grade slag of pre-war days contained 9,880,000 units of phosphate.

The 700,000 tons of slag produced in 1920 contained 15,200,000 units, and 560,000 tons out of this quantity, with 13,400,000 units were of grades containing  $15\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and upwards of phosphates,

It is agreed that practically the whole of the phosphorus entering the ironworks is accounted for in the figures given above. It follows that if the output of steel remains constant the slag figures will remain substantially as they are, except that the highest grades will tend to become scarcer and the others proportionately to increase.

Dr. E. J. Russell of Rothampstead reports that the basic slag produced to-day is very inferior to that produced in 1914 which gave 40 per cent. of phosphates. This is attributed to the changed methods of producing steel. "Open-hearth" basic slag yields only 15 to 30 per cent. of phosphates. Some of it was of the same solubility as that of 1914, and gave proportionate results, but the floorspar slag produced at present is much less soluble and not so efficient. Dr. Russell does not see much prospect of improvement for the reason that the slag is worth only a few shillings to the manufacturer while the steel is worth pounds.

In the pre-war days farmers were advised to use only slag of high solubility, and that sold by the best firms had a solubility of 80 per cent. and upwards ; but now that the process of manufacture has changed, experts are no longer agreed as to the desirability of a high soluble slag. The latter will come into action sooner than slag of lower solubility and so a larger return may be expected in the first season. It is possible, however that in later seasons the lower soluble slag may grow in effectiveness, and at the expiration of some years there may be a little difference between the two ; this has been considered to be proved by actual experience.

A fertiliser has been put on the market under the name of "*Slag phosphate*" which is a mixture of low grade basic slag with Nauru phosphate, ground to a fineness of only 60 to 70 per cent. and sold as containing 45 to 50 per cent., or 50 to 55 per cent. of phosphate of lime, no statement being made by the vendors on the invoices as to their solubility. Actually none dissolves in water in the same manner as the soluble phosphates in superphosphate dissolve, and on testing the mixture called slag-phosphate in 2 per cent. citric acid, an analyst found that only  $13\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. dissolved out of a total of 52 per cent. of phosphate. It is evident therefore that when submitted to the same laboratory test, high grade slag is about 3 times as soluble in citric acid as the slag phosphate. Though this test cannot be taken as a measure of the fertilising value of the two phosphates, it does indicate that phosphate of lime in the slag will often be more quickly effective than that in the mixture.

"*Ephos*" *Phosphate*. A fertiliser sold under this name is a natural phosphate from Egypt containing 62 per cent of insoluble phosphate and 20 per cent of carbonate of lime, with a fineness of 84 per cent. It has been shown from actual experiments to yield results comparable with those obtained from basic slag, but less effective than those obtained from equal quantity of superphosphate owing to the soluble phosphate content of the latter.

W. A. LEE,  
Lt. Col.

11th May 1922.



**SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHEVAROYS PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD ON THE 11TH MAY 1922 AT 2 P. M. AT THE VICTORIA ROOMS, YERCAUD.

*Present:*—Mrs. Gaitskell, Mrs. C. G. Lechler, Messrs. S. M. Hight, N. M. Hight, W. I. A. Lechler, W. Rahm, W. A. Rahm, C. Rahm, E. L. Poyser, C. D. Ryle, C. Dickins, H. S. Dickins, V. L. Trvaers Drapes (Hony. Secy.) and Rev. Father E. Studer.

1. Notice calling the meeting was taken as read.
2. Mr. C. Dickins was voted to the Chair.
3. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

All Members having been previously supplied with a copy of the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 1922, the Honorary Secretary then read his report as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have had the honour of being your Honorary Secretary since 15th June 1921. After going through a heavy file of old records, I have been able to ascertain that this is our 42nd Annual General Meeting as a District Association.

The S. P. A. was formed in 1880 and except for the interrupted period 1919, this association has survived and done useful work for a period of 43 years.

To go on to the important subject of the accounts, my recent illness delayed the audit and therefore the accounts were not out of the printer's hands till the 9th instant. They were sent out the same day and trust have reached all members. I regret this very much but you will, I am sure, admit this was unavoidable. I shall be glad to explain any item if so required.

The year ends with a credit balance of Rs. 566-12-4. This includes the sum of Rs. 196 at credit of the Police Reward Fund.

The increased expenditure over last year is mainly accounted for by the heavier cost of Establishment and entertainments, as per the following Comparative Statement.

	1920-21	1921-22	Difference.
Office Allowance	Rs. 240/-	420/-	180/-
Reception	Nil	240-10-0	240-10-0

*Police Reward Fund.* This Fund remains the same as last year as it was not drawn upon and as no further appeals for subscription was made during the year.

*Budget 1922-23.* This is on the Agenda for to-day. As a prelude to the discussion, I want to point out that we have to find a way of balancing our expenditure so that our carry forward at the end of

the year will not be less than Rs. 500/-. It is my desire that such a sum should be obtained to enable us to create a reserve fund to be invested to bring in a small return, which from time to time could be added to. Such a reserve fund is necessary for two reasons:—

1. In case of any untoward expenditure should the S. P. A. be wound up.
2. To draw upon in case of defaulting members and attendant litigation.

Further, there is another item I must refer to, that is the cost of Incorporation which has not been included in the Budget. I have it on good authority that this will cost Rs. 200/-, and in all probability we shall be called upon to foot the bill this year. I shall proceed to show you later on how such provision will have to be found, when it will be up to you to do the catering.

*Meetings.* There have been, including the present, six General and Extraordinary General Meetings and Eight Committee Meetings during the year, the average attendance at each being 12 and 6 respectively.

The Estates on the register during the year number 23, with a total of 3274 acres. The subscribing Estates for the new year remain the same but with an increase of 48 acres. We have no personal members and I am glad to report that all subscriptions to 31st March 1922 have been paid.

*Rates of pay.* These have been levelled up, and I am glad to say that a standard rate is now prevalent over the whole District. This is adequate, and I trust that no part of the District will find it necessary to cause further inter-competition by raising these rates. I would here remind you that any proposed increase in wages, must be accompanied by a six months notice to all District Associations.

Before going further, I will refer to Mr. Hight's resignation as the Chairman of the S. P. A. as an irreparable loss. He has been closely associated with the S. P. A. since its inception, has been the prime mover and guiding light in the various stages of its history, and indefatigable in his efforts to assist the various Honorary Secretaries and Committees. We should be duly grateful for all he has done and not grudge him a well earned rest from his labours. We wish him a speedy return to health.

Now as regards the working of the S. P. A., I can assure you that the work gets heavier every month and in view of the considerable changes impending in U. P. A. S. I. affairs, I rather fancy Honorary Secretaries of District Associations are not now-a-days lying on a bed of roses.

Your Delegates attended all U. P. A. S. I. General Committee and Annual General Meetings, and succeeded in putting through the



new Labour Rule, which is now in force. The real utility of this Ordinance can only be tested after its application for a given period, but to make it of any appreciable benefit, members must make use of it as opportunity affords.

*District Board Member.* Mr. W. A. Rahm has been elected in place of Mr. Dickins and will, I am sure, uphold our best interests.

*Labour Commission.* This Commission visited Yercaud in January, and their Report is on your Agenda for discussion to day. I do not know your views, nor whether you will think it advisable to come to a decision to day, but would like to warn you to give it every consideration before committing yourselves to a policy which you may afterwards regret. I feel sure the proposed organisation will remain in a nebulous stage till the next U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting, and will there come under a very microscopic examination. You have nearly four months before you, and my advice is that you ask your Committee to examine the scheme, and refer back their report for your final opinion, before the next U. P. A. S. I. meeting.

*Benevolent Fund.* I should like to make another appeal to those of you who are not subscribers, to join this fund. The amount asked for per member is very small, and a great deal of good is being done by the Fund. There are now seven subscribers, and I should like to see this number doubled.

*Local Fund and Hospital.* You are aware of the new proposals for establishing a Local Board in this District. Your Association's Memorial has gone up to Government, with a strong recommendation from the President, District Board, Salem, and is a move in the right direction. I have every reason to believe it is receiving sympathetic consideration. As regards the Yercaud Hospital, the state of affairs cannot be said to be satisfactory. The District Board have agreed to find the maintenance funds for the current year and have addressed the various Boards and Bodies concerned for an alternative scheme. Your Committee has the matter in hand but have not yet come to a decision. Any scheme they may formulate will be referred to you.

Before closing, I feel I shall not be doing my duty by you, if I refrain from mentioning the fact that with regard to subscriptions there appears every possibility of a rift in our otherwise happy state of existence. It has come to my notice that at least one member is attempting to evade his obligation, which at this stage, with only two more years to run, is greatly to be deprecated and cannot on any account be tolerated. It is perhaps not realised that the burden of paying arrears of subscription in default falls entirely on the Association concerned, who is bound to make good out of its own funds, so that our only recourse against defaulters will be a suit for recovery. Each year, members have to submit an acreage declaration, and their subscription is based on that declaration for the year current. Now that Incorporation has been completed, the moral obligation, though still indefensible, is further supported by the legal aspect, which can

and will enforce its claims. I trust however that the member concerned, who now contemplates getting behind his declared acreage<sup>a</sup> for the year, will, like Brutus, acknowledge himself an honourable man and render his just dues which are already in arrears.

This, Ladies and Gentlemen, ends my report. With grateful thanks to the outgoing Committee for their patient attention, good humour and able assistance during the past year, your Honorary Secretary and Committee now place their resignation before you.

(Sd.) V. L. TRAVERS-DRAPES,  
Honorary Secretary.

Proposed from the Chair that the Honorary Secretary's Report and Accounts be adopted and the former be printed in the Planters' Chronicle. *Carried Unanimously.*

4. BUDGET 1922—23. The Honorary Secretary explained that the present financial strength of the Association made it impossible to budget on a credit balance basis. He could foresee no alternative but to ask members to consent to a small increase of subscription per cultivated acre. After a careful scrutiny of the Budget figures the following proposition was put to the meeting by the Chairman.

"That in view of the fact that the present income of the Association is insufficient to cover expenditure, the subscription be raised, as from 1st April 1922, from Rs. 1-5-0 to Rs. 1-7-0 per cultivated acre for the current year ending 31st March 1923." *Carried Unanimously.*

Mr. C. Dickins (Chairman) then asked permission to bring up the question of paying subscriptions once a year in advance. Permission having been granted he said that personally he found the quarterly calls for subscription a source of irritation and worry, So he had set the example by paying his subscription for the current year in full. This method would undoubtedly save the Association a great deal of expense incurred at present on postages, etc., and he asked the members to remember that they should always endeavour to save the Honorary Secretary as much clerical work as possible, so that he may devote the time saved to other more important matters. After some discussion the following resolution proposed by Rev. Father E. Studer and seconded by Mr. C. D. Ryle, was put to the Meeting

"That in view of the amount of extra work entailed in collecting subscriptions quarterly, all future subscriptions be paid once a year to the Honorary Secretary, S. P. A. on or before the 1st April of each year and that reminders be sent to all members, a month prior to this date and that this rescinds all past resolutions in this matter." *Carried unanimously.*



5. REPORT OF THE LABOUR COMMISSION. This subject drew a great deal of animated discussion, but it was finally decided on a proposition from the Chair:—

“That the Labour Commission's Report be placed in the hands of the Standing Committee for consideration, and that they submit their considered opinion in the form of a report to a General Meeting prior to the date fixed for the U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting.” *Carried unanimously.*

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1922-23. The election then took place with following result :—

1. *Chairman*.—Mr. C. Dickins.

2. *Honorary Secretary*.—Mr. V. L. Travers Drapes.

3. *Committee*.—Messrs. C. D. Ryle.

„ W. I. A. Lechler.

„ Rev. Father E. Studer.

„ C. Rahm.

„ S. M. Hight.

„ W. A. Rahm (District Board Member Ex-Officio).

4. *U. P. A. S. I. General Committee*.—Mr. C. Dickins (Chairman) and Mr. V. L. Travers Drapes (Honorary Secretary).

7. MEMBERSHIP. The Chairman brought to the notice of the meeting the advisability of inviting the Senior Government Representatives in the Salem District to become Honorary members of the Association. It was proposed from the Chair :—

“That the Collector and District Magistrate, the Conservator of Forests, the District Superintendent of Police, and the Executive Engineer be invited to become Honorary Members of this Association.” *Carried unanimously.*

8. S. I. P. B. Fund. Mr. C. Dickins (Chairman) introducing this subject said.—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before closing this meeting, I would like to support your Honorary Secretary's appeal for more subscribers to this Fund. It is a deserving institution doing a great deal of good by helping necessitous cases. It is within the bounds of possibility that any one of us here may at any time be in the position of an applicant for help, therefore, I ask you all to consider whether it is not, surely, a sound form of Insurance. If you agree, then, I hope you will not withhold your membership. There are only 8 subscribers in this District where there should be 100 per cent., but I hope this will soon be remedied.

9. With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.

(Sd.) V. L. TRAVERS DRAPES,

Honorary Secretary.

PERIAKOLAM-KURUVANATH ROAD.

The following Government Order, with reference to the Peria  
kolam-Kuruvanath Road, is published for information:—

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Roads-Uttamapalayam-Kuruvanath, Madura District, carrying out of improvements-deferred.

## LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

dated 26th May 1922.

Read the following :

From the President, District Board, Madura No. 1206 dated 19-8-1917

From do „ 218 „ 16-6-1920

From do " 363 " 15-4-1921

*Order.*

The Question of improving the condition of the road from Uttamapalayam to Kuruvanath has been engaging the attention of the Government for sometime. The following measures were considered necessary to bring it up to the proper standard and render possible its future maintenance in a satisfactory condition.

- |     |  |                           |
|-----|--|---------------------------|
| (1) | Construction of aqueducts<br>on the Uthamathur chanel  | Estt. cost.<br>Rs. 59,010 |
| (2) | Construction of two bridges at the<br>crossings of B C group odaies in<br>Hanumantapatti village | „ 49,495                  |
| (3) | Putting the road in a proper order   | „ 57,100                  |

The Madura Dt. Board requested that the entire cost of carrying out the improvements be borne by the Government and that the road be treated as a trunk Road. The District Board was informed that unless it agreed to provide one half of the cost of constructing the bridges and of putting the road in proper order, if necessary by raising a loan, the question of improving the road would have to be deferred. The Board does not agree to bear this expenditure. In the circumstances the Government regret that the question of carrying out the improvements must be dropped.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government).

F. J. Richards, Secretary to Government.



### UPASI BUYING AGENCY.

This Agency commenced its activities on the 1st July last year, and so has nearly completed one year of work.

A few months ago a circular was sent to all members to ask them if they had found the Agency of real use to them. It was gratifying to learn from the replies received that the majority of members had found it a real money saving scheme, and it was still more satisfactory to note that there were only two complaints among all the replies received. All the suggestions made by members have been followed up, many of them successfully.

The Agency first started with under one hundred members and there are now double that number, while the number of Firms dealt with has increased from nineteen, which was the number nine months ago, to forty, all of which offer special terms to members on direct orders.

The work in connection with the Agency has been steadily growing with the increase in membership and the number of Firms dealt with, but, from the members point of view at any rate, the Agency has fully justified the experiment which was made in starting it, and it is to be hoped that during the next year of work all Planters in South India will enrol their names as members, and so still further strengthen the Agency as a Co-operative body.

For all the good that it has done, there are, unfortunately, many points in which the Agency has not been as useful as it might be to members. The greatest drawback possible is that, the Office not being situated in the Presidency Town, a great deal of delay takes place in trying to get special quotations, and in procuring exact particulars of goods and the best place to get them. With the Office in Coimbatore it is impossible to compare prices and qualities of various goods so as to advise members where to place their orders to the best advantage, and, as long as the Office remains in the mofussil, this disadvantage will necessarily continue to be a serious one which cannot be overcome. It would pay members to increase their subscription to the Agency, if necessary, so as to help to meet the extra expense of the U. P. A. S. I. Office being transferred to Madras, as was recommended by the Labour Enquiry Commission, but which does not appear likely to be carried out. If the Agency were situated in Madras the increase of benefit to members cannot be estimated, for, if this move were made, there would be no limit to the possibilities of extending its sphere of business in many new directions, which cannot be touched on at all as long as the Agency remains at Coimbatore.

Still, even where it is, it is doing good work, and it may well be considered the duty of every planter to belong to it in order to obtain complete Co-operative strength.

C. H. BROCK,  
Secretary,  
Upasi Buying Agency.

## WHAT THE SCIENTISTS ARE DOING.

We note that the Editor, under this title from time to time, publishes extracts from the monthly reports of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts and the Rubber Mycologist. We propose, in this article, to go to a wider field and give a digest of some of the work which has been done recently in agricultural chemistry by scientists all over the world, the source of our information being the annual reports on the progress of chemistry during 1921, issued by the Chemical Society.

The soil retains by absorption and surface attraction some 10 to 20 per cent. of its weight of water, distributed as films over its particles. This water dissolves some of the soil constituents, forming a solution which is of obvious importance as the medium through which plants and micro-organisms derive their food ; indeed, it may be regarded as the culture solution for the plant. Experimental work, however, is hampered by the difficulty of separating it from the soil. When soil contains moisture in percentages suitable for plant growth, the solution is held by the soil particles with such force that no ordinary means will remove it. Various methods have been suggested for isolating the solution from the soil, so that it can be studied, for studying it *in situ*. The water extract of a soil has not quite the same composition as the soil solution, but is not greatly dissimilar and if concentrated to have the same freezing point it presumably resembles the actual solution also in concentration and should not then undergo any change when placed in contact with the soil. Experiment has shown that this is the case, and probably, for the first time in history, a solution was poured through the soil and came out unchanged in composition.

The relationship between the concentration of the soil solution and plant growth has previously been studied in the case of barley, similar results have now been obtained with maize, horse bean, potatoes, and turnips. The concentration at any point in the soil is not significantly reduced until the plant root actually reaches it, that is, there is no drift of solutions containing plant food in the soil apart from the movements due to drainage. This shows the importance of placing the manure in range of the roots and of encouraging the spread of the roots through as wide areas of soil as possible, especially in the lower layers, and emphasises the fact that top dressings encourage shallow rooting, so that such plants become unable to resist drought.

Apparently, the fact that a substance occurs in the soil extract affords no certain proof that it can be absorbed by plants.

Orthodase, a potash bearing rock, yields up potassium to water, but the dissolved potassium was not absorbed by wheat, until the solution was treated with a mixture of acids.



The variation in composition of the soil solution brought about by plant growth effects the degree of dispersion of the colloid material of the soil, and a large increase of dispersion was observed when the soil solution was depleted as a result of the absorption of plant food by the plants. Water extracts of soil frequently contain a considerable amount of colloid material, and examination shows it to consist mainly of hydraulic silicates of aluminium with varying amounts of oxide of iron and organic matter and mineral salts.

Many soils are greatly improved by the addition of lime and the obvious explanation is commonly put forward that they have, in some way, become acid and therefore infertile, but that fertility is restored on neutralisation. The explanation is not quite so simple as this, in general however, acidity is rectified by the addition of calcium carbonate, and from the practical point of view, it is desirable to have some method which will show how much must be added to soil to ensure a neutral solution. This problem is receiving attention.

Soil problems are very complex and lime must not be regarded solely as a neutralising agent, and there is evidence to show that plants usually obtain phosphates more easily from neutral than from acid soils. This is of great importance in South Indian soils which are not only deficient, as a rule, in lime and tend to be acid, but at the same time are deficient in phosphates. It indicates that the general aim in manuring should be to apply frequent applications of lime as well as phosphate fertilisers.

The relationships existing between the growing plant and the micro-organisms in the soil are gradually being elucidated. Many organisms are capable of decomposing protein with formation of ammonia. In nature, the ammonia is almost invariably oxidised by bacteria to nitrates. The bacterial fixation of nitrogen constantly attracts attention and study. It is effected by two groups of organisms known as *Azobacter* and *Clostrichium*. The former is usually regarded as the more important, it assimilates nitrogen more slowly at ordinary temperatures, but fixes more than *Clostrichium*, though it is possible the latter is more numerous in the soil and really plays the more important part.

A third group of organisms acts in symbiosis with leguminous plants and is closely related in activity to the growth of those plants. Other organisms are concerned in the loss of nitrogen from soil, some of which is presumably brought about by the evolution of gaseous nitrogen. Little is, at present, known about this process.

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture,

Planting Districts.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The "Planters' Chronicle" is not responsible for the Opinion of its correspondents).*

## RUBBER CHESTS.

Dear Sir,

For some time the cases for Rubber that I have been getting up from Mangalore for a Rubber Estate in Coorg have been found to be full of weevils and the Rubber consequently has been reported on in London as covered with wood dust. On complaining to the suppliers I am told that the cases are all bad now, but if I want a good case they recommend the Assam Tea Chest at something like Rs. 5/-

If any of your Rubber readers could kindly inform me if it is possible to get sound cases at a reasonable price and from where, I would be very much obliged. Surely the numerous Rubber Estates in S. India do not suffer in the same way? On at least two occasions our Agents at home have had to repack our Rubber in fresh cases before putting it on the market.

Your's faithfully,  
P. M. WILLIAMS.

## THE CART CONTRACTOR.

The Shipping Agents write you :—

"A Steamer early June,  
"Despatch your Rubber quickly  
"Last Boat before monsoon".

Return of post you ask them ;—

"Please send six carts, and soon"  
They send the cartman with a chit  
"Herewith six carts". A boon !

The Cartman minus bandies  
Arrives, the usual trick;  
"Carts coming three days after,  
All bullocks very sick".

Three days go by, a week is past,  
No sign of carts as yet;  
Then on tenth day three carts arrive,  
Their full cart hire must get.

You grouse at the Coast Agents,  
Quite useless as a rule;  
They love their cart contractor  
Although a perfect fool.

Wherever else you order carts  
You will, no doubt, get all,  
As many as you may require;  
But not from.....

A. D. H.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated,

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI" Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### MYSORE CIRCLE REPORT FOR MAY 1922.

During the month rain has been plentiful all over the District and in some parts so excessive as to cause anxiety that the Cholan crop would be rotted off. Since about the 22nd instant, however, rain has held off and crop prospects are good.

Gundlupet Shandy prices are :—

Rice per pullah of 100 Mysore seers	...	24—0—0
Ragi	"	10—0—0
Cholan	"	11—0—0
Gram	"	13—8—0

Tea Estate coolies have been going in but, owing to the marriage season, they will not move until after about the 1st week of June.

The influenza epidemic which I reported in my April report has now subsided, and public health appears to be satisfactory.

Work is at present plentiful owing to ploughing and sowing, but these operations are nearing completion.

C. E. KENT,  
7-6--22.

### CUT-WORMS.

Cut-worms, which are the larvae or caterpillars of various species of moth, often do a considerable amount of damage to young crops. We often have specimens sent in and enquiries made how to deal with this pest, and they have been reported to destroy young Coffee and young Tea plants. Cut-worms are especially troublesome in vegetable and flower gardens, eating off young plants just below the ground level.

It has been found in America that the most successful means of dealing with this pest is to protect the young seedlings and plants with a collar of some sort. The caterpillars or worms are only able to work in the top two or three inches of soil, and if a collar is placed round the plant and pressed in to the soil for the depth of a couple of inches or so, the insect is unable to either climb over it or burrow underneath it, and the plant is, in consequence, protected till it gets of such a size that it is able to resist the attack.

These collars may be made of tin, and we have seen cigarette tins with the bottoms cut off used most successfully. The objection to these is that if they are left a little too long the plant grows so big that the tin cannot be removed without damaging it. That difficulty may be got over by using strips of tin plate which are bent round in the form of a ring so that they can be easily removed. Tin plate is, however, expensive and soon rusts.

We have just received some samples of a special rot-proof paper which has proved a great success as a protecting collar for young Coffee which in Kenya Colony is apt to be destroyed by Cut-worms. The paper is bent in the form of a ring round the plant and pressed down into the soil. The Cut-worms are unable to eat the paper shield which contains a certain amount of insoluble copper and this prevents them also from rotting.

The paper is made in two qualities, a two ply paper which has been proved satisfactory and a one ply paper. There is evidence to show that this latter is equally effective.

The paper can be obtained from the Dux Chemical Solutions Co. Ltd., St. Leonards Works, Hancock Road, Bromley by Bow, London E. 3, at the following rates delivered in London F. O. B. :—

One ply 38 inches wide at 4 d. per yard.

Two ply 38 inches wide at 8 d. per yard.

or Shields one ply paper 4 inches by 3 inches at 7/-s per thousand.

Two ply paper 4 inches by 3 inches at 14/-s per thousand.

We strongly advise those who are troubled by Cut-worms, either on the estate or in their gardens, to give these shields a trial. Samples may be obtained if necessary from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD.



**COORG PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held at the North Coorg Club, Mercara on June 7th 1922.

**PRESENT.** Messrs. Ball, Maclean, Bracken, Nicolls, Sprott, Raymond, Souter, Mann, Pearse, Tipping, Macrae, Parsons and Egerton (Hony. Secty.)

Notice calling the Meeting was read.

Minutes of the preceeding Meeting were read and confirmed.

**WAR MEMORIAL.** Mr. Ball presented the accounts of this Fund, and issued several photographs of the Memorial Tablet.

**OFFICE BEARERS,** The following were elected.

*President* :—Mr. P. G. Tipping.

*Hon. Sec* :—Mr. W. Egerton.

*General Committee U. P. A. S. I* :—Messrs. Tipping & Egerton.

*Delegates to U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting* :—Messrs. Tipping & Egerton.

*Committee North Coorg* :—Messrs. Maclean, Pearse, Nicolls, Mann, W. R. Wright and A. J. Wright.

*Committee South Coorg* :—Messrs. Bracken, Shaw, Macrae. Schofield, Gerrard & Tipping.

**ACCOUNTS & ANNUAL REPORT**, having been already circulated to Members, were taken as read.

The Accounts were passed & confirmed.

**INTER DISTRICT LABOUR RULES** were read and rules 11,12, & 14 fully discussed.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ball the retiring President. Mr. Tipping thanked the Meeting for having elected him President.

W. EGERTON,  
Hon. Secty.,

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## EXTRACT OF MONTHLY REPORT OF RUBBER MYCOLOGIST FOR MAY 1922.

*Outbreak of Scale on Hevea.* During the past month, several estates have experienced attacks of a species of scale insect. The attacks are in all cases very local, but here and there the damage done is considerable, some trees having been completely defoliated.

The pest responsible for the damage closely resembles the brown bug of coffee, "*Lecanium Hemisphaericum*."

Hitherto *Hevea* has suffered comparatively little from insect pests and cases of damage by scale are rare. The few instances which have come within my experience have been entirely confined to badly nourished and weakly trees. I have never known scale to do damage on vigorously growing *Hevea*.

In this instance the attack has doubtless been brought on by the excessive drought.

The scale insect has a number of natural enemies — insect and fungal. The presence of parasitized insects on most of the specimens examined indicates that the first of the checks is already in operation. The second and more effective check by fungal parasites may be looked for shortly, and with the onset of the monsoon any further spread of the scale should be arrested.

With regard to treatment, combative measures are invariably difficult and expensive. In a climate so favourable for fungal infection the odds are all against the scale pest surviving the monsoon, but if it reappears, vigorous measures will have to be taken immediately. Weakened as they are by *Phytophthora Meadi*, the *Hevea* trees of Southern India make favourable hosts for any predatory insects, and any further development of the scale trouble will have to be carefully watched,

H. ASHPLANT.

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT. U. P. A. S. I.

Report No. 18. (21st May-3rd June.)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, accompanied by the Government Entomologist, were at Mooply from 22nd to 25th May and inspected the Rubber Experiment Station and visited several estates. They reached Mundakayam on 28th May and visited the Mycological Station with the Rubber Mycologist, and a number of estates, and proceeded to Peermade on 1st June. In this latter district, mosquito Blight, the attack of which is just beginning, will receive their special attention. From Peermade the Officers will proceed to Bonaccord and Poonmudi, via Alleppey and Quilon.

2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (14-27 May).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station* cloudy weather has been experienced during the fortnight under review but not much rain has fallen, 0'92 inches being recorded, all in the first week. 2000 basket plants from Station selected seed have been prepared in lime sulphur soil, to protect them from the attack of mealy bug scale. The hybrid plots have been chop-dug, and lime compost manure has been applied to plots 8. B and 9 A.

At the *Tea Experiment Station* there has been rain throughout the fortnight under review, a total of 4'35 inches has been recorded. This is very welcome after the long drought recorded in my last report and the bushes are benefitting by it in every way. During the first week of the period, 492 lbs of green leaf were plucked from 11'45 acres, and during the second week, 952 lbs. from 11'02 acres, which shows how the bushes are responding to the rain. Hand weeding is being done and the plants of *Crotalaria Semperflorence* transplanted from a nursery.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, a good deal of rain has been received, a total of 10'36 inches being gauged during the fortnight. The whole station is under a good cover of *Tephrosia candida* and *Centrosema*, and *Indigofera* in the seed selection plots is beginning to grow well. Regular tapping will be begun on 1st June.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station Tenmalai*, 4'89 inches of rain were recorded during the fortnight. *Tephrosia candida* is coming up well but the germination and growth of the other green dressing is poor. Tapping was done regularly in all the experiment plots and fair yields were obtained.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## SUITABLE SHADE FOR COFFEE.

(*Indian Scientific Agriculturalist*)

It does not do to dogmatize as to any particular tree or trees fulfilling all the requirements of shade for Coffee, having regard to the varying conditions under which the fragrant berry is grown. Trees under which Coffee thrives in one district prove positively deleterious to the plant in another, perhaps not a dozen miles away. The great rule to observe in the question of shade is, where the coffee is doing well, not to interfere. This useful rule is sometimes honoured in the breach rather than in the observance. Some planters not infrequently take a prejudice against certain trees, and, irrespective of the fact that the coffee under them is in a flourishing condition, ruthlessly eliminate them. Where, of course, trees are observed to have a detrimental effect on the coffee, after other means have been tried to improve it without success, it is the right thing to do to get rid of them after providing temporary shade like *Erythrina* *Lithosperma* and silver oak to take their place.

Trees planted with or after the coffee plants have been put down are spoken of as "artificial shade" in contradistinction to original jungle trees left, when clearing the land, for the purpose of providing shade. In the Mysore planting districts it was generally the practice to plant coffee under forest shade; but where there was a deficiency of it, or where trees were blown down or eliminated for any cause, they were replaced by artificial shade, and in some cases the practice of making a complete clearance of the forest was carried out and shade planted with coffee. The trees favoured for the purpose were *Ficus glomerata*, *Ficus tuberculata*, *Ficus infectoria*, *Ficus Mysorensis* and *Artocarpus integrifolia*. These remain the prime favourites generally to this day, though some are objectionable because they are too dense for positions where the rainfall is heavy. The *Ficus* tribe become old and are objectionable as permanent shade on that account; but coffee seems generally to thrive under them for an indefinite period. When they become deleterious they can be eliminated, and other trees substituted for them. *Ficus glomerata* attacked by a parasite which spoils its spread, so is also *Artocarpus Integrifolia* and another objection to both these trees is that their fruit attract game and cattle in large number. The first named is also subject to a scale which sometimes kills the tree and the saccharine deposit from the scale with which the coffee trees in its vicinity becomes covered seriously affects the bud. Several other trees are also affected with the scale, amongst which may be mentioned *Acorocarpus flavinifolius* and *Cedrela-toona*. *Ficus glomerata* was at one time regarded as an almost ideal shade tree for coffee, because it shed its leaves during the height of the monsoon, when shade is not required and put forth new foliage after the cessation of the rains, but the



foliage is too scanty for situations where the rain fall is light, and it becomes exceedingly scraggy when old. It is suited to positions where humidity is somewhat in excess. Another serious objection to the ficus tree is that, when they become old, the roots in the vicinity of the stems come up above the ground, but they should be eliminated long before they have reached this stage, and other trees substituted for them, these last being planted early enough to made efficient substitutes when the former are eliminated. *Acorocarpus flaxinifolius* and *Cedrela-toona* have been tried and found wanting as shade. The objection that they are subject to scale has already been noticed. In addition the foliage of the former is not dense enough for dry situations ; and the fact that the latter is no protection against borer, as it loses its foliage at a period when the hatching of the insects' eggs is most active, is a serious objection to it. Latterly *Grevillea robusta*, *Albizzia molucana* and *Erythrina lithosperma* have been largely planted out. The first named meets the demand for a tree of rapid growth, but the chief objection to it is its scanty spread which necessitates a large number to the acre. It is in great favour as a shade in Java. Mr. Huidekoper, of the National University, Adiyar, in a lecture on the Coffee Industry in Java, delivered at Chickmagalur on May 18th 1921 to an audience of Mysore planters, claimed for the tree when it is full grown that it has good crown. Our experience of it is just the opposite, for as it grows it sheds all its branches till it assumes the appearance of a palm tree. To remedy this, topping the tree after it has made some considerable growth has been tried with indifferent success. The immediate effect of topping is to make the trees throw out a number of suckers which develop in to stems. In order to make the tree spread laterally it would be necessary, as in the case of coffee, to remove the suckers as quickly as they appear, and this would not only be too costly but would consume labour that can be illspared. *Albizzia Molucana* was planted somewhat largely in South Coorg about 1872. It answered fairly well till it become old, when the coffee under it began to suffer in the dry weather, the branches dying back. It is a leguminous tree and, in common with other trees of this order, owing to oxygen being essential to the bacteria in the nodules on their roots, the surface soil is permeated to such an extent by them as to deprive the coffee largely of moisture. Coffee under *Dalbergia latifolia*, another leguminous tree, is particularly dry at this period of the year ; and rain, which is sufficient to bring out the blossom on the coffee generally, usually fails to bring it out on the coffee in the vicinity of these trees. Coffee under jak trees, *Artocarpus integrifolia*, also droop badly during the dry season, but for quite another reason, and that is, being an evergreen, it acts like a pump in depriving the coffee of moisture by transpiration. In fact all trees that are in foliage during the driest period act detrimentally in the same way. It is for this reason that *Terminalia belerica* and *Schiejchera trijuca* (the Ceylon Oak) make ideal shade for coffee. They shed their leaves at the beginning of the hot weather, providing the ground with a heavy mulch of leaves which keeps the soil moisture where it is most needed,

that is about the coffee roots. Though *Erythrina lithosperma* is made use of as a temporary shade, its principal function is to supply the coffee with green manure. It is claimed that a ton of its loppings contains 61.50 lbs. Nitrogen, 57.38 lbs. Potash, 14.92 lbs. lime and 13.68 lbs. Phosphoric Acid.

The same species of trees that are used for shading coffee in Mysore are used in Coorg also with the addition of the two *jats* mentioned above previous to *Erythrina lithosperma*; but in the latter place it is recognised that there can be no permanent shade; that after trees have become old, they must give place to young trees of mixed varieties—rotation in shade! It is hoped by doing this to bring about an alteration in the nature of the soil. In the words of the late Mr. R. D. Tipping, writing to the *Madras Mail* on the 15th September, 1905; "By growing a variety of shade trees supplied up regularly with young shade, differing from that already growing whilst the older shade is being gradually eliminated, we shall, I think, assist in altering the nature of the soil."

The great desideratum in the cultivation of is, whilst providing for the adequate shading of the coffee, to so treat the shade trees as to insure a minimum number of stems per acre. In order to guard against the dying out of trees causing vacancies, shade trees are, in the first instance, planted far more closely than they need be, and the mistake is made, instead of eliminating the surplus trees when their branches begin to overlap, of lopping up the branches to insure the necessary light reaching the coffee. This destroys all chance of their attaining their fullest lateral development and the trees generally have narrow heads, and the fields are crowded with a far larger number of stems than are necessary.

The usual method of eliminating old or undesirable shade trees is by "ringing" them, that is, cutting a deep groove all round into the stem of the trees. There is always the risk of the decaying tree developing "stump rot," a disease caused by a fungus, which has been identified as *Rosellinia radiciperda*, which after attaining sufficient vigour to do so by living on the roots of decaying trees, attacks the living roots of the contiguous coffee trees, bringing about their death. The only means of combating this disease is to dig a 3-foot trench round the decaying tree so as to include all roots of a larger size than 2 inches in diameter, then heavily liming and digging the affected area before replanting it. If the trench is dug directly the tree has been "ringed," it will result in the saving of many more coffee bushes than if it is deferred till the disease has started.

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## U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL MEETING 1922.

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT BANGALORE,  
COMMENCING ON MONDAY THE 21ST OF AUGUST 1922.

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA.

**Ordinary  
Business.**

1. The Chairman's Address.
2. Report of the Executive Committee.
3. Accounts—1st April 1921 to 31st March 1922.
4. Election of Chairman and Auditors.

## THE U. P. A. S. I.

**Special  
Business.**

5. Incorporation of District Associations.
6. Inter-District Sports.
7. Planters' Chronicle.
8. Report of the Enquiry Commission and re-organization of the U. P. A. S. I.
9. South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund.
10. Upasi Buying Agency.
11. U. P. A. S. I. Rules.
12. AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

## LEGISLATION.

13. The Planting Member.
14. The Reformed Councils and Politics.
15. Factory Act.
16. Labour Laws.
17. Malabar Tenants Improvement Act.
18. Income-tax Act.
19. DUTIES AND TAXES.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

20. Harbours.
21. Railways.
22. Roads.
23. Shipping.

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

24. The Director's Report.
25. Inter-national Labour Conference.
26. Labour Rules.
27. The Labour Department.

## GENERAL.

28. Labour rates of pay.
29. Medical.
30. Statistics.
31. Manures.

32. TEA.
33. RUBBER.
34. COFFEE.

## SCIENTIFIC.

35. Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.
36. Report of the Rubber Mycologist.
37. General Mycologist.
38. BUDGET AND FINANCE.

NOTE :—The above Agenda is nothing but a skeleton to be filled out by Members, and if any item fails to find someone wishing to bring forward a resolution under it, unless it refers to unfinished business still before the Association, it is liable to be withdrawn from the final Agenda. All Resolutions and new subjects must reach the Secretary *before the 12th July 1922.*

COIMBATORE, }  
17th June 1922. }

C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary,  
U. P. A. S. I.

## INDIAN FACTORY ACT.

This is to remind Superintendents of Estates, which have Factories worked by steam, water or other mechanical power or electricity, and in which, on any one day in the year, not less than 20 persons are simultaneously employed, that they must send to the Inspector of Factories, Madras, a written notice, before the 1st July, containing full particulars of the factory as required under Section 33. The particulars required are:—

- (i) the name of the factory and of the place where it is situate,
- (ii) the address to which he desires his letters to be directed,
- (iii) the nature of the work performed in such factory,
- (iv) the nature and amount of the moving power therein, and
- (v) the name of the person who shall be deemed to be the manager of the factory for the purpose of this Act.

C. H. BROCK,  
Assistant Secretary.  
U. P. A. S. I.



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**MARKET REPORT.**

Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co., quote as follows from Messrs. Leslie & Anderson's Report of 18th May :—

**COFFEE.** The market at Auctions this week has developed a dull tone except for the finest coffee wanted for the Home Trade. This quietness is due, chiefly, to the continued absence of demand for export, for the poorer qualities, and, also, to some extent, to a tightness of money in the coffee market, for Buyers are finding their purchases are not moving off so quickly as expected; both these factors, we think are only temporary.

**TEA.** About average quantities were offered in Auctions this week. The demand for teas valued up to is. 1 s. 1 d. per lb. was steady but higher price teas sold in Buyers favour. The market in Ceylons again showed a decline of  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. to  $\frac{3}{4}$  d. per lb. for the finer qualities, in part due to the poorer quality of the tea now coming forward. The view of the market now seems to be that with stocks in hand and quantities coming forward there is no cause for anxiety with regard to supplies for immediate future.

We hear the Trade are giving the benefit of the 4 d. per lb., reduction in Duty to the Public though, as explained in a previous letter, they are only obtaining 3  $\frac{1}{3}$  d. from the Customs, with the result they are slightly lowering the standard of their Blends thus causing the lower qualities to be steady and the higher qualities to be in less demand. We had none of your teas in Auctions this week.

**CARDAMOMS.** The market continues steady.

**RUBBER.** The rubber market has again reached the exceptionally low level of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  d. and 7  $\frac{5}{8}$ . for spot, on weak news from America and the East. At present there is a general opinion in the market that still lower prices may be reached in the course of the summer months. Our stock figures for London have risen to just over 69,000 Tons; and shipment figures from the East continue to be disappointingly heavy.

**SPECIAL COFFEE REVIEW.** The Principal item of interest for Coffee Planters this week has been the successful flotation in London and New York by the Brazilian Government of a loan of £ 9000,000 bearing interest at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. issued at 97. The list in London was only open for about an hour seeing the subscriptions by the Public were so large. The loan is secured, in addition to the Brazilian Government's Guarantee by the hypothecation of Coffee bought and to be bought by the Brazilian Government. No doubt it is the intention of that Government to control and market its holdings at more favourable prices.

The estimate of next season's Brazil crop (August/Jan'y.) is reported to be only a moderate one so the indications at present point to a continuance of a steady market for Coffee for the next twelve months or longer.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its Correspondents.)*

### PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Sir,

Reading the constant appeals on behalf of this Fund is very heart-rending, and, I think, *every planter* ought to subscribe towards it.

Some time ago a man came round this District with a petition, professing to be a French Sepai stranded in Bombay, and trying to reach his native place Pondicherry. I noticed that almost every planter he had visited had subscribed Rs. 5/-, yet planters hesitate to subscribe less than Re. 1/- per mensem to the Planters' Benevolent Fund to help brother planters in distress,—“Alas for the rarity of Christian charity under the Sun”.

If Proprietors, Directors and highly paid Managers of Companies would only come forward, as they should do, the Fund should and would be in a flourishing condition.

There are many Lotteries in aid of charitable institutions sanctioned by Government, and I would suggest a Lottery in aid of the Planters' Benevolent Fund.

25,000 Tickets at Rs. 2/- each			Rs. 50,000
1st Prize	40 per cent	Rs. 20,000	
2nd „	15 per cent	Rs. 15,000	
3rd „	10 per cent	Rs. 5,000	
1 „	...	Rs. 1,000	
2 „	of 500 each	Rs. 1,000	
2 „	of 250 „	Rs. 500	
Benevolent Fund	10 per cent	Rs. 5,000	
Expenses	5 per cent ?	Rs. 2,500	
			Rs. 50,000

SUPERINTENDENT.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### REPORT ON THE SRIVILLIPUTHUR DIVISION, SOUTH.

**Srivilliputhur.** Owing to lack of rain there has been no second paddy crop except in a few cases. This is not unusual here. Very little agricultural work is going on apart from the cultivation of minor garden produce, the planting of Raggi, and manuring. Water is scarce in the vicinity and all tanks are dry.

Labour is available, slightly more so than usual, but it is unlikely to emigrate before August even if advanced now, owing to monsoon conditions on the hills.

There is no great degree of sickness.

Wages remain steadily round as. 8 per day, and upwards, for men.

The price of grains and foodstuffs is about normal. Rice sells at 3½ measures per rupee.

*Sankaran Koil.* This is what is known as a dry Taluk, very little paddy being grown. The Cholan harvest is over, and the second crop is being sown. The cultivation of Raggi, Chillies, Sugarcane, and a certain amount of American cotton is in progress, and is absorbing a proportion of the available labour. Irrigation is from wells. In isolated instances the second paddy crop is being harvested but this is a minor item. Most agricultural work will be finished in about six weeks' time. Labour will then wait for the Adi Thavasu festival in Sankarankoil and when this is over (about the beginning of August) will be free to go to the hills. This refers to labour which is now being paid off. That which was paid off in February is now going to the estates.

The supply of well water is sufficient ; tanks are dry.

The price of grains and food stuffs remain normal.

Cholan  $6\frac{1}{4}$  measures per rupee.

Raggi 7 do

Rice 4 do

Wages remain stationary and are not likely to alter materially

There is no sickness to speak of.

*Sivagiri.* The main crop here is paddy. Owing to better weather conditions this year two crops will be secured, the second being the minor one. It is now being harvested, and should be finished by the end of June. Other crops are Raggi, Cholan, and in places Chillies. These are now in process of being cultivated. When the present paddy harvest is over, labour will be free to go to the hills. The recruiting season is July and August.

The emmigration from this centre does not vary greatly unless owing to adverse weather conditions. The same labour goes to the hills year after year and returns in due course. There is seldom a surplus of labour beyond the habitual estate going coolies, as this is a fertile part of the country and wages are good throughout the year.

Rice is comparatively dear, as is generally the case where it is abundantly grown. This is on account of the competition by outside merchants. The price at present is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  measures per rupee.

Other grains and foodstuffs are normal.

Wages for men are 8 to 12 annas a day, generally paid in kind, unless for building, tank excavation and general artizan's work.

There is plenty of well water and sufficient in the tanks for another month. The light rains ("Sarral Malai") have commenced, and the health of the population is generally good.

*Puliangudi.* is 12 miles south of Sivagiri. Conditions are very similar to those prevailing further north, with the exception of water supply. This is scanty. The second paddy crop is being harvested, though not so extensively as in Sivagiri.

The price of rice is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  measures per rupee.

Srivilliputtur }  
12—6—22 }

A. H. MACKIE.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

## REPORT NO. 19 (4-10th June).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, accompanied by the Government Entomologist, were in Peermade from 1st to 9th of June and paid visits to a number of estates, being chiefly engaged in giving advice about *Helopeltis* and the use of green dressings. The attack of *Helopeltis* was just beginning after the long drought, followed by showers and sunshine. Spraying seems to be quite out of the question, impracticable and expensive. The pest can be controlled to some extent by systematic catching, but attention is being paid to methods of manuring and cultivation which will make the tea bush resistant to the insect. Success is more likely to be obtained in this direction than by a direct attack on the insect itself.

## 2. THE PLANTING EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (28th May-3rd June)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, 0.43 inches of rain was recorded during the week, and at its close there were indications of the setting in of the Monsoon. A preferential weeding was given to the green manure plots. Suckering, handling, and hand-weeding are being done at one and the same time in the coffee and 1½ acres were completed during the week.

The *Tea Experiment Station* was inspected by the Deputy Director of Agriculture and the Government Entomologist on 2nd June. Rain fell on each day of the week and a total of 2.26 inches was gauged. The flush is improving and 1145 lbs. of green leaf was obtained from 10.16 acres, a yield of 112 lbs. per acre. Green dressing seeds have germinated and it is hoped to raise a cover before the heavy monsoon rains, but owing to the protracted drought, these crops are very late and not very satisfactory. A plot is being got under a cover of *Oxalis Violacea* to test its effect on the Tea.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Mooply, rain fell on 5 days during the week and a total of 3.70 inches was gauged. Tapping was begun on 1st June. The young plants in the seed selection plots have been sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture with the object of protecting them from any attack of *Phytophthora*.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Tenmalai, rain fell on six days during the week, a total of 5.09 inches being gauged. This interfered a good deal with the tapping. On the evening of 30th there was a heavy shower of 2.85 inches in two hours. The results of the week's tapping was 94.27 lbs. of wet scrap.

## SYSTEM.

Yield per tree per day in oz.

Plots 1 to 14.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily	0.41
Plots 16, 19 & 20.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily	0.49
Plot 18.	$\frac{1}{3}$ alternate day	0.31
Plots 15 & 18.	$\frac{1}{2}$ alternate day	0.36
Plot 24.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily morning	0.48
	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily evening	0.41
	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily evening only	0.43

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture Planting Districts.

## KANAN DEVAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KANAN DEVAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE HIGH RANGE CLUB, MUNNAR, ON SATURDAY THE 27TH MAY 1922 AT 3-30 P. M.

In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, from whom a letter of apology was read, Mr. W. A. Lee was voted to the Chair. The following members were present :—

Messrs. W. O. Milne, A. W. John, J. M. Bridgman, C. P. Gouldsbury, A. J. Wright, A. H. Dixon, W. J. Dixon, J. W. Tolson, C. Rowson, G. W. Cole, A. G. Murray, D. Mackintosh, A. Yates, P. G. Campbell, N. J. Davies, G. R. Strachan, B. John, R. D. Armstrong, R. S. Keir and J. S. B. Wallace, Hon : Secretary.

### HON: SECRETARY'S REPORT.

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to place before you my report on the working of the Association for the past year.

*Membership:* Remains the same as last year.

*Acreage:* The acreage now subscribing is as follows:—

Tea	...	22,319 acres.
Coffee	...	839 "
Minor Products	...	1,192 "

---

Total      24,350 acres.

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*Meetings:* During the year 8 Committee Meetings have been held and four extraordinary General Meetings. Delegates were present from this association at the 28th Annual General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I., The Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, The Annual General Meeting of the Combined Travancore Association and also at all the meetings of the General Committee of the U. P. A. S. I.

*Medical Grants:* These have all been duly paid and our thanks are due to H. H. Government for the concession.

*War Memorial:* I am afraid I have not much progress to report. The subscription list has just been returned to me. Including the Rs. 750 already given by Messrs. James Finalay & Company, Ltd., Rs. 2,173 has been promised. The Bronze plates ordered from home by Mr. Bridgman have been shipped and paid for, the cost being Rs. 576. Estimates have been sent in to Mr. Grant for the stone work and as soon as he returns from leave I trust the work will be started.

*S. I. P. B. Fund:* There are now 40 members in this District subscribing to the Fund and if the response to an appeal I recently sent out to Assistants to join the Fund had been more generally res-



ponded to, we should have been in the happy position of beating the Anamallais who have 43 members and claim to be the most largely represented District on the Fund.

**Accounts:** Copies of same have been circulated to all members and a certified copy signed by our auditor Mr. Brown is on the table.

I now, Gentlemen, place my resignation in your hands."

The Chairman thanked Mr. Wallace for his report and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for the work he had done in the interest of the Association during the past year.

**ACCOUNTS:** Proposed by Mr. A. W. John and seconded by Mr. W. J. Dixon that the accounts be passed. *Carried unanimously.*

**WAR MEMORIAL:** Mr. Lee explained that the Committee had just before this meeting been considering estimates sent in by Contractors and recommended that the estimate submitted by Kamachi Assari be gone into further by Mr. G. W. Cole. If on that gentleman's report the rates quoted by the Contractor were considered satisfactory, the new Committee be authorised to accept this contractor's offer. The monument to be of red granite as found between Madupatty Station and Pallar. On Mr. Grant's return work would be put in hand and progress reported to subscribers in two month's time. *Carried unanimously.*

**MADRAS MAIL PLANTING SUPPLEMENT:** Letter (copy) from Madras Mail to Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. was read and members asked to help in any way they could.

**LABOUR RATES OF PAY:** Read Circular from the U. P. A. S. I. As Interests outside the K. D. H. P. Co., Ltd., were not represented at the meeting, the Hon: Secretary was instructed to send copies of the Circular to the Estates concerned and that further discussion as to the adoption of rates be deferred till next meeting.

**INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES:** It was unanimously decided that provided these rules are generally adopted by U. P. A. S. I. members this association would accept them.

**INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS:** Decided to select a team to play the Shevaroy's before the end of June from the following members:—

Messrs. H. L. Pinchers, A. H. Dixon, C. P. Gouldsbury and R. De. C. Meade.

**INCORPORATION:** The Hon: Secretary reported that all necessary papers had now been signed and forwarded to the Secretary U. P. A. S. I.

**L. A. N. INSTITUTE:** As the Hon: Secretary had not heard definitely what subscription would be demanded for next year, this matter was left over till the next meeting.

**S. I. P. B. Fund:** The Chairman appealed to the Meeting in support of this deserving Fund and trusted that not only Managers but all Assistants would now become annual subscribers.

## SRI MULAM POPULAR ASSEMBLY DELEGATE'S REPORT.

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

On behalf of your Association I attended the 18th Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly at Trivandrum between the opening day the 27th February and Friday the 3rd March.

I also attended the Annual General Meeting of the combined Travancore Planters' Association held at Quilon Club on the 25th ultimo, when delegates from the Central Travancore Planters' Association and the South Travancore Planters' Association were present.

The only resolution passed at this meeting was a reduction in the rates of the Annual Subscription from Rs. 25 to Rs. 15, there being practically no expenditure during the year.

Matters pertaining to the representation of subjects at the Sri Mulam were discussed, and it was agreed that the delegates of the respective Associations which constitute the Central Association should assist one another as far as possible at Trivandrum.

The subject of the Income Tax was brought up, but it was decided that a policy of "Wait & See" should be adopted as none of the Associations had made it a subject for representation at the Sri Mulam

Mr. J. R. Vincent of the Mundakayam Association was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. Tait of the Central Travancore Association Vice-Chairman for the current year, while Mr. Lampard was re-elected Secretary.

I attended the Sri Mulam daily till Friday the 3rd instant when I had an opportunity of putting the matter of the direct transfer of civil decrees from Devicolum Munsif's Court to British Indian District Courts. I represented that the present procedure which necessitate the transfer of these decrees through Parur District Court caused considerable delays which frequently defeated the ends of justice enabling debtors to transfer their property and funds elsewhere before they could be attached.

The Dewan replied to the effect that the matter had been referred to the High Court, and if a reply was received to the effect that the District Munsiff could be invested with the necessary powers the question would be referred to the British Government to ascertain if relief could be granted.

I have no doubt that a reply from the Travancore Government will be forthcoming in due course. In conclusion I have pleasure in handing over the following publications to the Associations:—

1. Address of the Dewan.
2. Statistics of Travancore.
3. Report on the Administration of Travancore."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. G. W. Cole for his report and for representing the Association at this Assembly.



## ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN &amp; COMMITTEE. 1922-23.

The following Office Bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Mr. H. L. Pinches was re-elected *Chairman*.

Mr. J. W. Tolson ... *Hon: Secretary*.

*Committee:—*

Messrs. A. Yates, J. M. Bridgman, W. A. Lee, W. O. Milne  
and A. H. Dixson.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

WILLIAM A. LEE. J. WHITELEY TOLSON.

Chairman. Hon: Secretary.

## NILGIRI-WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT GUDALUR ON MONDAY, 5TH JUNE 1922, AT 11-30 A. M.

*Present:—* Messrs. J. Aird (Chairman), R. Fowke (Vice-Chairman)  
G. W. Fulcher, R. Bentley, B. J. Blackett, J. B. Adkins  
L. Garret, P. Naylor, F. C. Scott, E. L. Godley, J. S.  
Nicolls, R. M. Nicolls, J. Nicolls, & F. W. F. Fletcher  
(Honorary Secretary).

*Visitor:—* Mr. W. S. Scott.

**HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT.** The Proceedings of the last Meeting having been confirmed, the Chairman called on the Honorary Secretary to present his report. Mr. Fletcher said:—

“Mr. Chairman and Gentleman, The following report covers our official year from 1st. April 1921 to 31st. March 1922.

*Membership and Acreage.* During the year the Agents of one property gave me notice that it had been abandoned, and that no further subscriptions would be paid. To compensate for this secession, one Estate joined the Association, so the number of Estates on our books remains the same as last year, viz. 17. Of these, one estate has not paid its subscription, and must be regarded as a doubtful member. I have addressed the owners at home, but so far have had no reply. Whether an Estate which defaults in its subscription is or is not legally liable appears to be a moot point, and one on which I have failed to get a definite ruling from the Secretary. I am glad to say there has been a large increase in the number of personal members of whom we now have 9. I trust the remaining Chic Dhorays will come in during this year.

“The subscribing acreage for 1922-23 is 12,060, as compared with 11,986 last year, this total being made up thus:—

Tea	...	...	7261
Rubber	...	...	315
Coffee	...	...	4484
			<hr/>
			12060
			<hr/>

*"Meetings.* Six Meetings were held during the year, the average attendance being 10, the same figure as last year. As I said in my last report:—

"The success of an association like ours hinges entirely on the interest taken in it by members, and the acid test of that interest is their attendance at meetings". Making due allowance for the long distance from some of the Estates to Gudalur, where our meetings are always held, and also for the fact that it is difficult for several employees to leave an Estate at the same time, there is ample room for improvement in the above figure; and if, Gentlemen, I may be allowed to say so, a 'beggarly array of empty benches' is rather discouraging to your officials. Some members did not attend a single Meeting during the year, and I would appeal to them to evince a greater interest in an Association which was founded solely for their benefit, and which works solely to that end. If a change of venue would conduce to fuller Meetings, your executive will gladly consider any suggestion to that effect.

*"Finance.* The accounts I now submit cover the full year to 31st March 1922. They have been audited in the Chairman's office and found to be correct, and I lay them on the table. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 768—6—0: subscriptions amounted to Rs. 1202—2—6: and the matured deposit, with interest, brought in Rs. 525—3—6, making a total income of Rs. 2495—12—0. The expenditure for the year under all heads amounted to Rs. 1037—13—0, leaving a balance of Rs. 1457—15—0, to be carried forward. The extraneous items in this expenditure were:— Bank's exchange on cheques, 3—2—0: one book of Proceedings, 2—8—0: paid Mr. Nicolls for postage and telegrams, 9—13—0: Gudalur Bungalow fee for Meetings, 27/— Travelling Allowance to delegates 750—: subscription to S. I. P. Benevolent Fund, 25—: Subscription to Tennis Tournament 10/— total Rs. 827—7—0. The actual cost of running the Association for the year was, therefore, Rs. 210—6—0. I did not renew the deposit as the Imperial Bank only offered 4 percent. I purpose to buy a bond for Rs. 500/— in the 7 percent Mysore State loan and I ask the sanction of the Meeting to this. From what I have said, you will see our financial position is very satisfactory. With the a/cs I have filed an estimate of income and expenditure for the current year which shows a credit balance of Rs. 1146—9—0. Our present subscription of 1½ annas per acre will therefore provide us with ample funds. In this estimate I have taken account of the enhanced postage and by the resolution passed at our Meeting held on 13th. March last our delegates will in future be paid travelling allowance for attendance at the UPASI General Committee Meetings and the Annual Meeting at Bangalore on a scale which will at least cover their out-of-pocket expenses. These items account for the increase in expenditure as compared with last year.

*"Review. Coffee.* So far as I have been able to learn, the last crop in our District was rather a poor one on the whole. But prices have been excellent, and these combined with low freight and a low



exchange will, I trust, enable all our coffee members to show a substantial balance on the right side when their accounts for the season are made up. Blossom showers this year did not fall till late in April. They brought out a magnificent show, giving every promise of a bumper crop - a show which took those old enough to remember back to the good old days, when coffee was king. In some parts of the District, however, rain fell on the open blossom - with what result it is still too early to judge, but *as usual* we hope for the best. No one knows better than the coffee planter that Hope is a jade who more often than not tells a flattering tale; yet he has wooed her so long that, robbed of her society, he would be a lonely wight indeed!

*Tea.* When we met this time last year, the out look was gloomy in the extreme. The home Market was overstocked with low grade tea to the tune of something like two hundred and twenty millions of pounds and price had fallen to a figure below cost of production. Not one of us could then have foreseen the improvement which came with a suddenness as startling as the slump itself. By some means which to me are a mystery, the London Market shook off its incubus. Prices in consequence began to soar, and soon reached a very remunerative level, at which they have remained. I heartily congratulate our tea members of the unexpectedly quick recovery, and the bright prospects with which this year has opened. As Kipling says,

"Let us admit it fairly, as a business people should,

"We have had no end of a lesson: it will do us no end of good," provided we take the lesson to heart, and never again sacrifice quality to quantity.

"What the ultimate result of the recent large reduction in the tea duty will be, remains to be seen. I will only say that the benefit to the producer, which some prophets foretold when the Budget first appeared, is not yet manifest.

"*Compensation for Tenants' Improvements Act*, This still hangs fire, but I need not go into the matter in detail here, as I have duly reported progress from time to time at our Meetings. So far as I am aware, the position now is that the Act will be extended to the Nilgiri-Wynaad at some indefinite date, but only with effect from the date of its introduction. If this policy is carried out, the Act will be a dead letter to owners of existing Estates, and no protection will be afforded to the very persons who need it most. The arguments we have adduced in support of our contention that the Act should be given retrospective effect have never been controverted, for the all-sufficient reason that they are unanswerable. But in spite of this, I fear we must make up our minds that it is futile to kick against the pricks.

"*Incorporation.* The papers connected with this have all been duly signed, and are now with the Solicitors, so we may hope that very soon this long pending business will become an accomplished fact.

"*Labour Commission Report.* This is before you today for discussion, and our thanks are due to the three gentlemen who have

devoted so much time and trouble to its compilation. The subject dealt with is necessarily a controversial one, and I fear we shall not find ourselves able unanimously to accept the recommendations made in the Report; but I do trust that eventually a way out of the impasse, acceptable to all, may be found. For it seems to me that the good ship "U. P. A. S. I." is getting into perilously shoal water, and I am sure we should all be most deeply sorry to see her wrecked, however much we may differ as to the utility or otherwise of the Labour Department.

"*U. P. A. S. I. Subscriptions.* As from 1st. April, all subscriptions due to the U. P. A. S. I. will be collected by the Secretary, and I would ask our members to make all remittances on this account direct to the Office at Coimbatore. Subscriptions to our own Association will be collected by the Honorary Secretary, as in the past.

"I have now dealt with all matters of special interest to the N. W. P. A. which have come on the tapis during the year under review, and with these remarks I beg to tender my resignation. But before doing so, I would wish to offer my best thanks to our Chairman for the real interest he has taken in the work of our Association during the past year, and for the advice and help he has consistently given me in all matters."

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS. The Chairman then delivered the following address :—  
"Gentlemen,

Our Honry. Secretary has dealt so fully with all matters of interest that he has left me little to add to his very excellent Report, and review of the years working of our Association. I would however like to join him in his congratulations to those interested in Tea, which, with one of our principal customers still out of the market, has shown marvellous powers of recuperation. To members who have been obtaining outstanding prices on the London market I would tender my congratulations, and trust that what they have they'll hold. As to coffee, and as an old coffee planter, I can but endorse what our Hon. Secry. said. The season, which has not been too favourable for tea on account of the long drought, suited coffee, better than any one I have myself experienced on this side of the country. Showers too were good, but with that our luck ended, and the rain which fell on the open blossom in many parts, both in this district and elsewhere, can, in my opinion, only have done harm. In this department of our industry also, I would like to congratulate those interested, on the outstanding prices I have seen recorded for some marks from our district. I fear the silver lining in the cloud that has overhung the Rubber world, for some time past, is not yet very apparent, and prices show no signs of recovering and it is difficult to say that we have, even now, seen the worst. It is however a long lane that has no turning and with the advent of better trade and more settled conditions we will no doubt see better times for rubber also.

"The past year has been an anxious and trying one in other respects for us all. Situated as we are, the activities of the Mopla



rebels were a real menace, and their advent into the district might well have caused a stampede of our Labour. As it was, we have to congratulate ourselves on the fact that our coolies stood firm, and we were able to secure our crops, although some of those who had Moplah labour have had to face serious losses in advances, and all of us have had to meet increased transport costs. Our thanks are due to Mr. Macfarland our Collector for his active and untiring efforts in regard to the safety of the district. The local Military Authorities too, did everything possible, in the face of many calls on their services at that time, to meet our views in regard to the protection of the Nilgiri-Wynaad. The rebellion is now a matter of the past, but it took a very long time to quell, and caused a deal of sorrow; and anxiety, especially to those who had relatives in Malabar or near its borders, and we all trust that the lessons which it has taught will not be lost on the Government. The clearest of these are, the need for adequate military protection on the spot, and for a Railway to open up the district.

"To those of our Members who were instrumental in organising and working on the local Patrol of the S. P. M. R. I would offer my thanks. They did good work on our behalf at a time of great danger to the district, and I trust that what was then begun will not be allowed to lapse, now that conditions are more settled, as he would be more than an optimist who would say that their services won't be required in the future.

"Our Hon. Secry. has been good enough to refer to my efforts during the past year on behalf of the Association, but I can assure you, Gentlemen, that he has left me little to do in the way of real work, and I would beg to tender him my especial thanks for the unselfish way in which he has devoted his time to the interests of the Association. Such work as I myself may have done, has been, with his assistance, a pleasure. To you, Gentlemen, I would tender my thanks for the courtesy with which you have always treated me as your Chairman, and with these remarks I place my resignation in your hands."

A very hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and Honorary Secretary for their services during the past year was proposed by Mr. Nicolls, and carried with acclamation.

LABOUR COMMISSION REPORT. This was discussed at length in Committee, and Mr. Nicolls was good enough to answer several questions asked by members. In open Meeting the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Fletcher, was passed *nem con.*—

"That this Association, recognising the vital importance to the planting community of a powerful U. P. A. S. I., and apprehending that the high subsidies proposed in the Labour Commission Report to be paid by non subscribers to the Labour Department will inevitably lead to the secession of many members from the parent Association, strongly

urges that, if these subsidies are retained, they should be reduced to a figure which will be acceptable to all members of the U. P. A. S. I."

**INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.** The Honorary Secretary read letter No. 628 dated 28th April 1922 from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I., covering copy of additional Labour Rules. These were taken seriatim, and the decisions of the Meeting were:—

Rule X. This is a verbatim copy of the Rule already accepted by all Associations (vide Labour Rules in Appendix to Book of Proceedings for 1921).

Rule XI. The Association accepts this.

Rule XII. As intimated when this Rule came up for consideration before, the Association absolutely declines to accept it or be bound by it.

Rule XIII. is accepted.

Rule XIV. The Association declines to accept this Rule or be bound by it.

**STANDARDISATION OF WAGES.** The Honorary Secretary read letter No. 225 dated 10th April 1921 from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. and a long discussion ensued. It was pointed out that the last clause of Schedule III, which contains the rules suggested for adoption by the N-W. P. A., is apparently in direct conflict with Rule X of the Inter-District Labour Rules. The former lays down that "no increase shall be made in rates of pay ..... until "the expiration of two months notice in writing, &c., &c.", whereas Rule X provides that "No District Association or member of a District Association "shall raise the pay of coolies without giving six months notice, &c., &c." The Honorary Secretary was instructed to bring this discrepancy to the notice of the Secretary U. P. A. S. I., and to ask which period holds good. Further discussion on the subject was postponed till receipt of his reply.

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.** The following gentlemen were elected for year 1922-23:—

*Chairman* ..... Mr. J. Aird.

*Vice Chairman* ..... Mr. R. Fowke.

*N-W. P. A. Committee* Messrs. Fulcher, Garrett, & Naylor.

*Honorary Secretary* Mr. F. W. F. Fletcher.

*U. P. A. S. I. General Committee* Messrs. Aird & Fowke.

*Delegates to U. P. A. S. I.*

*Annual Meeting* Messrs. Aird & Fowke.

Mr. Aird and Mr. Fletcher thanked the Meeting for having again elected them as Chairman and Honorary Secretary.

**CORRESPONDENCE.** Read letter No. 8295, dated 27th March 1922 from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. with regard to Moplah labour. The Honorary Secretary said Mr. Knapp's reply had not yet been received, so the matter remained in abeyance.

Read letter No. 774, dated 1st May 1922 from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. covering copy of letter from the General Manager, "Madras Mail", with reference to the Special Planting and Produce Supplement to be issued by that paper at the time of the U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting. Recorded.



Read Letter No. 844 dated 5th May 1922 from Secretary U. P. A. S. I., together with his letter No. 1581, dated 3rd June 1922 to Mr. Nicolls, with reference to the Indian Factory Act. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to ask for 2 copies of the Act for each tea Estate belonging to the Association, or 28 copies in all. With regard to the suggested meeting with the Chief Inspector of Factories, it was decided to send a representative, and Mr. Adkins kindly consented to undertake this duty. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to ascertain for what date and place the meeting was arranged, and advise Mr. Adkins.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting closed.  
 J. AIRD, F. W. F. FLETCHER,  
 Chairman, Honorary Secretary.

### WEST COAST PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT MOOPLY VALLEY ESTATE ON THE 10TH DAY OF JUNE 1922.

*Present.* Mr. A. C. Morrell (Chairman), Messrs. C. E. M., Browne, G. A. Brooke, H. J. Walmesley, E. H. Halliley, H. Waddington, C. Jackson, E. H. Moulton (Visitor), and P. Y. Champion (Hon. Secretary).

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

RESIGNATION OF COMPANIES. Mr. Waddington informed the members of the steps being taken by the U. P. A. S. I. on the above subject. Proposed by Mr. Browne "That those estates that have suffered as a result of the Moplah Rebellion to the extent of the loss of crop for the period of the Rebellion and of such crop as was stocked at the time of the outbreak, be afforded relief to the extent of remission of their subscription to the U. P. A. S. I. from the date of such loss of crop, till such time as they are in a position to start tapping". Seconded by Mr. Halliley. *Carried.*

INCORPORATION. Proposed by Mr. Walmesley:—"That provided the liability of members does not Exceed Rs. 15/- each this Association is willing that Incorporation should be completed as soon as possible". Seconded by Mr. Morrell. *Carried.*

INTER-DISTRICT GOLF. Agreed that this Association shall not enter.

LABOUR RATES OF PAY. (Standardisation.) Proposed by Mr. Halliley:—"That this Association do not accept any new Labour Rates of Pay." Seconded by Mr. Browne. *Carried.*

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to advise the U. P. A. S. I.:—"That the area is so large and rates vary to so great an extent that it is impossible to come to any Standardisation of rates for the District covered by the West Coast P. A."

DELEGATES. The following delegates to the U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting were elected by ballot:— Mr. Browne and Mr. Halliley, and instructed by the meeting.

**ROADS.** That the attention of the Collector of the Malabar and the Malabar District Board, with a copy to the Hon. Mr. A. R. Knapp, be drawn to the disgraceful state of the Feroke - Kundotti and the Pandikad-Karuvarkundu Roads and the absence of a ferry at the Chathamangalam crossing - causing great inconvenience and hindering the reconstruction of estates in Malabar. Also that a copy be sent to the U. P. A. S. I. to enable them to take steps in this matter. *Carried.*

Proposed that in future the minutes as posted to the minute book be a summary of the meeting *Carried.*

**CORRESPONDENCE.** "Madras Mail" (Planting Number); Bangalore Hotels.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Waddington for so kindly attending the meeting and explaining various matters to the members present.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Halliley for his kindness in lending his bungalow to the Association for the meeting.

**A. C. MORRELL** *Chairman* **P. Y. CHAMPION** *Hon. Secy.*

### **WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

**PROCEEDINGS OF AN ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB ON THE 7th JUNE 1922.**

*Present.* Messrs. Behr (Chairman), McBain, Darkin, Bisset, Eyre, Powell, Malcolm, Craig, Gauld, Bowling, Steward, Vincent, and Hay (Hon. Secretary).

Read Proceedings of the last meeting.

**LABOUR RATES OF PAY.** Mr. Craig, Mr. Cheesman and Mr. McBain refused to revise rates of pay of coast labour, therefore the resolution passed at the Meeting of 5th April is not binding.

**INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.** Rule No. X. accepted with the alteration of six months to two months, and the addition of the words "through the Hon. Secretary of the District Association", after the word "intentions."

Rule No. XI. Not to be accepted.

Rule No. XII. Still considered to be unworkable.

Rule No. XIII. Accepted.

Rule No. XIV. Still considered to be unworkable.

**PLANTING AND PRODUCE.** Letter read and recorded.

**MEDICAL TREATMENT OF POST OFFICES PANAMARAM, KALPATTU WYNAAD AND KATTICULAM.** These serve no estates in the Association except Kalpetta Wynaad which serves Elston, where there is no hospital.

**LABOUR COMMISSION REPORT AND REORGANISATION OF U.P.A.S.I.** Mr. Malcolm proposed the following resolution; Mr. Eyre seconded, *carried* six to two, "Resolved that in the opinion of this Association the subscriptions to the U. P. A. S. I. and each of its respective departments should be distinct and that there should not be any subsidising of any department by the U. P. A. S. I.

That each department should be entirely self-supporting, self-contained and each subject to the control of its own committee,



It was resolved that as there is some desire that the Labour department should be separated from the U. P. A. S. I., the Executive Committee be asked to circularise proprietors or agents to ascertain which would be willing to join such a reconstructed Labour Department ; the probable cost of which would be at least Rs. 2. per acre.

**PLANTERS BENEVOLENT FUND.** Mr. Bisset informed the Meeting that Messrs. Harrisons & Croshfield, Ltd. had kindly consented to give an annual subscription of Rs. 25 for each of their estates in the Association.

The following members also Joined this fund:— Messrs. Powell, (for Chulica Estate) Steward, Vincent, McBain and Malcolm.

**CATTLE DAMAGE.** Resolved that the attention of the Collector be drawn to the great damage done to estates by cattle and the impossibility of impounding these animals in the village pounds and that he be asked whether cattle pounds on estates could be allowed.

R. W. M. HAY,  
Hon. Secretary.

B. M. BEHR,  
Chairman.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*("The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents")*

#### RUBBER CHESTS.

Dear Sir,

In reference to Mr. P. M. Williams' letter in your issue of 10th instant under the above heading ; nearly all timbers suitable for box making purposes growing in humid tropical climates are rapidly attacked by weevils immediately after felling, and great care must be taken with such timbers from the time of felling until the planking is thoroughly seasoned.

Immediately after felling the logs should be barked and immersed in water, and taken to the mills as soon as possible. This will not arrest the ravages of insects unless the timber is carefully treated after being cut up.

There are one or two sure methods in vogue which will prevent further damage and which, at the same time, season the timbers by removing the resinous oils etc., which set up decay.

Of course any process which the timber has to go through must increase the cost of the rubber chests.

The Assam Tea Chests referred to are most probably three ply boxes and, as timbers made up in this form have to pass through a special process, all poochies and decaying actions are removed.

The New Malabar Timber Yards & Saw Mills Ltd., Kallai, Malabar, have special methods of handling such timbers.

Yours faithfully,  
PARRY & COMPANY.





# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

The following extracts are taken from the Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, for the month of May.

"At Mooply we saw some *Tephrosia candida* which is used over very large areas as a green dressing, attacked by two species of scale insects, a yellow one which is *Cerococcus hibisci*, which also attacks cotton and hibiscus, and a white one, a species of *Ceroplastodes*. This attack was probably largely due to the long abnormal drought which has been experienced in the district this year. It has been noticed in several districts and on several estates and it did a certain amount of damage to the plants. It was most noticeable in the open, that is to say in young clearings and was almost entirely confined to these situations, there being very little under the shade of old rubber. With the advent of rain at the beginning of the month the scale became attacked by a fungus which was rapidly killing it and it was also heavily parasitised. It will probably completely disappear. The

best method of dealing with it seems to be at once cut over the infected Tephrosia, the young shoots coming up from the ratooned plants with the rain clean and uninfected. Should this pest ever become bad, which is unlikely, the Tephrosia could be rotated with the *Indigofera endecaphylla* which makes an excellent cover in young clearings.

"It is noticeable that the unprecedented drought this year has resulted in scale insect attack on several crops. Tea was seen infected with *Lecanium-hemisphericum* and some rubber in Mundakayam was suffering severely from the attack of a black scale possibly, *Lecanium nigrum*, with the attendant sooty fungus. This, following a severe attack of *Phytophthora Meadli* last year, was undoubtedly doing a great deal of damage to the trees and again defoliating them. Here again the advent of the rains appears to have dealt with the pest and fungi will kill it. When our present tour is completed these and other insect pests will be dealt with in detail in a special report by the Government Entomologist and myself.

"*The Coffee Experimental Station.* 2.61 inches of rain fell during the month distributed over 12 days. On the 10th a big storm of wind and rain was experienced, 1.60 inches being recorded. This storm blew down some of the dead shade trees and caused a certain amount of damage due to wash. The rain has set all the coffee growing and it has been handled during the month all the suckers removed. The crop on the trees is in two stages, in the barries set in the January showers, those set in the April showers. The crop is small and is estimated at 120 to 130 bushels only. Weeds are growing freely and a round of hand weeding has been done. The borer attack this year is slight and there are few failures among the supplies. The nursery is in good condition and a number of basket plants have been planted in soil mixed with lime and sulphur to protect them from the attacks of root scale insects, the "Meely bug". The green dressing plots have in some instances been resown and are now becoming established. Demonstration plots of *Crotalaria semperflorens*, *Desmodium rufescens*, *Tephrosia candida* and *Cassia hirsuta* are to be seen on the station. The last named plant is being used as a green dressing in open spaces in the old Coffee and in the hybrid plots. Compost manure was applied at the rate of 10 tons per acre to plots 8. B and 9. A. and the old road portion planted up with supplies have also received a dressing of this manure. The hybrid plots have been weeded and chop-dug and the biggest plants topped at 2½ feet.

"*Tea Experimental Station:—* *Tephrosia Candida* seed was again sown with the rains and is germinating well and it is hoped now to establish a cover which the drought has hitherto prevented. The terracing and paving of the rains which has been done during the last two months when labour was available owing to the shortage of crop has now been completed for the season. This work has cost Rs. 10—9—0 per acre and being of a permanent nature is of great benefit to the tea, helping in stopping soil erosion. The full benefits work will be seen during the following monsoon rains."



## THE OCCURANCE OF THE WHITE SPOTS ON CREPE RUBBER.

Crepe rubber has been found to be attacked by a bacterium which produces white spots, sometimes of considerable extent. The organism, one of the slime-forming Microccaceae, requires oxygen and moisture for its development and therefore grows best on material exposed to the air (damp crepe, lumps and scrap). It has also been isolated from latex and from the coagulum before rolling. The white slimy lumps found frequently on the cement floors of rubber factories contain large numbers of bacterium in question which is also present in the Shanghai jars used for storing the material and these are probably the usual source of infection. Latex exposed to the air overnight developed two distinct colonies, white and yellow..... After further exposure to the air the yellow colonies (possibly the cause of 'rustiness' in sheet rubber) became predominant. The white colonies.....were found to be capable when inoculated in pure culture on crepe of reproducing the spots. To avoid infection the coagulum should be kept entirely under water until ready for use. Damp crepe should be dried as quickly as possible and the factory, Shanghai Jars etc., must be scrupulously clean.

Meded. van. het. Algemeen Proefstat der A. V. R. O. S. Rubber-serie, 33 6 pp. 1 fig. 1921.

(From *The Review of Applied Mycology*, Vol. 1, part 3, March 1922)  
23—6—1922. C. S. G. Rao.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

Report No. 20. (11-18. June).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, accompanied by the Government Entomologist visited Bonaccord, Poonmudi and Merchiston Estates during the week, with special reference to Mosquito Blight. From this district, these officers will proceed to Tenmalai and they are expected to return to Coimbatore about 28th June.

### 2. *The Planting Experiment Stations.* (4-10. June)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, a dry week was experienced, only 0.44 inches of rain being gauged. Rain is required in the district and the ryots are anxiously awaiting it to sow their paddy seed beds. Handling and hand weeding were continued and 4½ acres dealt with during the week. Trees attacked by borer are being renewed. This attack is slight this year and only 155 trees have been removed from 10 acres. In some of the neighbouring estates as many as 60 trees per acre are attacked.

At the *Tea Experiment Station* there was rain on every day during the week, a total of 5.05 inches being gauged. Supplies are being put out from the nursery. The flush is gradually improving with the rains, 1443 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 10.92 acres a yield of 132 lbs. per acre as compared with 112 lbs. last week.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Mooply, there was rain every day and a total of 3.85 inches was recorded. The young rubber in the selection plots has been sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture to try and protect it from attacks of *Phytophthora*. Tapping was done regularly, one cut on one third section, continuing last year's section. The proved poor yielding trees have been thrown out of tapping, in order to try and level up the plots for comparison with one another. Secondary leaf-fall, due to *Phytophthora meadii* has made its appearance and is slowly spreading. A 2 per cent. solution of Izal is being used on the tapping cut to protect it from black line canker. The result of the week's tapping was 40.81 lbs. of wet sheet and 8.56 lbs. of wet scrap.

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
1 to 12	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'071
13.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'087
14.	$\frac{1}{3}$ alternate day.	0'082
14. A.	$\frac{1}{2}$ alternate day.	0'102
15.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'088
17 to 19.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'077

At the *Rubber Experiment Station*, Tenmalai, a wet week was experienced, a total of 4.65 inches being gauged. Tapping was a good deal interfered with by the rain and none at all could be done on 10th. The total crop harvested during the week was 77.65 lbs. of wet sheet and 5'8 lbs. of wet scrap.

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz
1 to 14.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'44
16, 19, 20.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily.	0'46
17.	$\frac{1}{3}$ alternate day.	0'43
15 & 18.	$\frac{1}{2}$ alternate day.	0'53
24.	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily morning.	0'48
	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily evening.	0'47
	$\frac{1}{3}$ daily evening only.	0'45

(Signed). RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## INDIAN ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

The Government of India have intimated that a large number of formal commissions for gentlemen who served in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers during the war have been received by the Military Secretary, Army Headquarters, for distribution. As practically all the gentlemen concerned have since been demobilised and have returned to civil life, great difficulty has been experienced in ascertaining their addresses. Several notices on the subject have been inserted in the newspapers but with little result. Gentlemen who served in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers, and who have not received their formal commissions appointing them to that service, can obtain them from the Military Secretary, Army Headquarters, Simla, direct on application,





## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	America
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Calicut	...	4,700	24,426	...	...
Cochin	...	...	139,241	21,235	33,712
Tellicherry	...	...	10,635	...	...
Tuticorin	...	57,190	15,120	...	...
Alleppey	...	23,349	...	...	...
Totals this month From 1st January 22 to 30th April 1922	35,736	85,239	189,422	21,235	33,712
Total from 1st Jan. 1922 to 31st May 1922.	209,318	314,060	1,009,965	79,841	514,372
	245,054	399,299	1,199,387	101,076	548,084
Grand Total	...	...	2,492,900. lbs.		



## RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for APRIL 1922.

## IMPORTS.

FROM	APRIL.			FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
Malaya	3,318	6,785	5,453	13,050	22,670	19,580
Ceylon and India	893	1,751	1,889	4,981	8,398	9,502
Dutch East Indies' etc.	814	1,615	1,156	2,360	5,712	3,343
Brazil and Peru	363	71	619	1,161	923	2,611
Other Countries	23	117	368	185	419	993
<i>Total Tons.</i>	5,411	10,339	9,485	21,737	38,122	36,029

## EXPORTS.

TO	APRIL.			FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL.		
	1922	1921	1920	1922	1921	1920
U. S. of America	1,011	2,006	3,427	12,400	3,317	17,934
Canada	16	—	319	201	11	1,551
France	825	269	1,403	4,909	1,199	5,229
Belgium	155	36	446	503	243	1,233
Italy	249	101	591	834	364	1,444
Germany, Austria, Hungary	656	869	533	3,201	2,486	1,173
Other Countries	144	108	249	765	886	860
<i>Total Tons.</i>	3,056	3,389	6,968	22,813	8,506	29,424

LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS in London and  
Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves  
during the month of APRIL.

		LANDED.	DELIVERED.	STOCKS 30th APRIL.		
		FOR APRIL	FOR APRIL	1922	1921	1920
London	{ Plantation	5,280	3,308	68,508	68,365	21,332
	{ Other Grades	—	5	129	394	540
Liverpool	{ Plantation	113	186	7,089	6,037	1,301
	{ Para & Peru	80	160	985	1,062	774
	{ Other Grades	—	4	431	460	447
<i>Totals London and Liverpool</i>		5,473	3,663	77,142	76,318	24,394

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 21 (19-25 June).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, accompanied by the Government Entomologist left Poonmudi on 19th, and proceeded to Tenmalai via Quilon on 22nd. At Tenmalai, these officers inspected the Rubber Experiment Station and paid visits to several neighbouring Tea and Rubber Estates. Mr. Anstead is expected to return to Coimbatore on 28th June.

2. AGRICULTURAL FACTS AND FIGURES. I am constantly asked when on tour, for formulae for sprays—, how to make Bordeaux Mixture, etc. I would call attention of planters to a most useful publication of the Madras Agricultural Department entitled "A Note Book of Agricultural Facts and Figures" compiled by Mr. R. Cecil Wood. This little book contains a mass of useful information of all kinds, tables, weights and measures. seed rates, spray formulae etc. and every planter would find it a most valuable book for his office table. Its cost is Re 1 and it can be obtained from any good book-seller.

## THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (11-18 June)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, the weather was cloudy during the week, but only 0.39 inch of rain was received. The first round of removal and burning of trees attacked by borer has been completed, and 216 have been removed. Handling and suckering was done over 3.32 acres, and hand weeding was done over 5 acres. The plots of green manures have also been given a hand weeding. Roads and drains have been cleaned and repaired.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, 4.21 inches of rain were recorded up to 16th. Routine work and plucking was done, but as the Farm Manager has been granted a few days' casual leave complete returns are not available.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, there was rain every day, a total of 4.23 inches being recorded, and high winds were experienced on 13th and 14th. Abnormal leaf-fall is spreading. A final thinning was done in the seed selection plots reducing each pit to one plant only the best. The plants removed are being used as supplies. The result of the week's tapping was 67.75 lbs. of wet sheet and 12.69 lbs. of wet scrap.

System.		Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 12.	One-third daily	0.161
Plot 13.	One third daily	0.166
Plot 14.	One-third alternate days	0.184
Plot 14 a.	Half alternate days	0.21
Plot 15.	One-third daily.	0.152
Plots 17 to 19.	One-third daily.	0.139

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, rain fell on each day of the week, a total of 3.35 inches being gauged. This



rain interfered with tapping and none could be done on 12th. The evening tapping on Plot 24 was particularly interfered with. The crop realised was 90.81 lbs. of wet sheet and 6.60 lbs. of wet scrap.

System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 14. One-third daily,	0.43
Plots 16, 19 & 20. One-third daily,	0.56
Plot 17. One-third alternate days.	0.56
Plots 15 and 18. Half alternate days.	0.61
Plot 24. One-third daily in morning	0.49
One-third daily in evening.	0.35
One-third daily in evening only.	0.34

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD.

## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 23-5-1922.

THE INDIAN FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.—It was mentioned in the proceedings of the last Committee meeting that the Committee had decided to have printed the text of the 1911 Act and of the 1922 Amendment Act in parallel columns for the convenience of members. The United Planters Association of Southern India had in reply to their letter recorded in the last proceedings been informed that copies of this publication would when ready be available for order. The Committee had since last meeting been in communication with the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal, with a view to arranging a meeting with him to discuss certain questions relating to the application of the new Act to tea garden factories. The Chief Inspector of Factories had expressed himself as desirous of meeting the Committee and, if possible, representatives of the branches and of the Planters Associations before the new Act come into force in respect of tea factories. The Committee now resolved to arrange a meeting with the Chief Inspector of Factories as soon as possible and the Secretary was instructed to try and arrange this meeting for 31st May at 2-30 p. m. to suit the convenience of up-country representatives. Invitations to send representatives to attend this meeting were to be sent to the Dooars Planters Association, the Darjeeling Planters Association and the Terai Planters Association. It was not thought necessary, however, to ask representatives of the Assam and Surma Valley Branches to be present as they were not directly concerned with the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal, and the outcome of the meeting could quite well be communicated to them later and might be of some assistance to them in coming to some working arrangement with the Factories' Inspector of the Assam Province.

LOSS THROUGH DEFECTIVE TEA CHESTS.—A letter dated 8th May had been received from the Traffic Manager, Eastern Bengal Rail-

way, stating that the shortages due to breakages of chests of tea in transit were again becoming serious and requesting that the Association should take such steps as would ensure that inferior chests of tea would either be crosshooped or gunnied when tendered for despatch by rail.

The Committee had replied to this letter giving their opinion that complaints on the score of inferior tea chests must soon become markedly less frequent as most estates—if not all—must soon have used up all their old stocks of chests. The Committee therefore registered their opinion that cross-hoping would do more harm than good and they suggested that when a consignment arrived in bad condition the consignees should be specially advised.

**OCEAN FREIGHT AGREEMENT.**—With reference to the tea rate for May which had been intimated by the Bengal Chamber and brought to the notice of members of this Association, of the London Association, and of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, the Committee had addressed a letter to the Calcutta Liners' Conference pointing out that the Conference Lines at home had accepted the offer made them by the Indian Tea Association, London, to fix a new freight agreement on a basis of £2-2-6 per ton of 50 cubic feet, with measurement in London, for three years certain and that therefore tea shippers here would only pay the intimated tea rate for May after 15th May under protest subject to adjustment at home in respect of the reduced rate as from 15th May.

A reply dated 17th May had been received from the Calcutta Liners, Conference explaining that the Conference had cabled owners at home respecting the position as from 15th May and that the reply received instructed Agents to continue charging tea freight under the method prescribed in the 1919 contract, subject to adjustment to the £2-2-6 net rate in the case of signatories of the new tea agreement, which had yet to receive the confirmation of the Indian Tea Association. It was further explained that the Conference proposed to continue measuring tea in Calcutta until the new agreement had been finally adopted and introduced.

The Committee directed that a circular should be issued bringing this position to the notice of members.

**REPORT ON PRODUCTION OF TEA IN INDIA : BURMA TEA RETURNS.** This matter was referred to in the last proceedings. It was there recorded that the opinion of the Association had been asked by the Offg. Director of Statistics on the question as to what, if any, allowance should be made in the above report for the tea grown in Burma, the contention being that almost the whole of the tea grown in Burma is converted into pickled tea for local consumption.

A reminder letter dated 19th May had now been received from the Offg. Director of Statistics asking for a reply to his letter of 13th April. The Committee directed that a reply should be sent to him



informing him that the Chairman of The tea Cess Committee was making personal enquiries regarding the matter and that when the result of there was known the reply to the original reference would be sent.

**STOCKS OF TEA IN LONDON :—**It was decided to inform the Indian Tea Association, London, that the question of stocks in London had been under consideration here and it had been suggested that steps might be taken by the London Committee to have these stocks verified. The consideration of the London Committee was to be asked to this suggestion.

### INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

**EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 6TH JUNE 1922.**

**REGULATION OF SALES :—**The terms of a resolution on the subject passed unanimously by the London Committee were published in last proceedings. It was now stated that a second resolution on the subject had been passed at a meeting of the General Committee held on 12th May in the following terms :—

“That for the weeks commencing 8th and 15th May members are recommended to print a quantity equivalent to not more than one-fifteenth part weekly of the unsold balance of their total crops for 1921, after the sale of the week commencing 24th April 1922. Further that any sales effected during the above mentioned period (including sales in Calcutta either public or private) should be deducted from the quantity to be sold in public auction.”

**OCEAN FREIGHT AGREEMENT :—**Record was to be made of a cable dated 25th May received from the London Association the terms of which were published to members in Circular No. 30, dated 30th May.

A letter dated 31st May had been received from the Calcutta Liners Conference to the effect that information had been received from home that the Indian Tea Association had confirmed the terms of the new agreement and proposing that until the new agreement be signed either here or in London the gross rate for freight should be charged as fixed, namely £ 2-7-6 for all shippers except those who will send to the Secretary, Calcutta Liners Conference at the Royal Exchange, a written intimation that they undertake to sign the new agreement as approved by the Indian Tea Association (London) either here or in London. In the case of such shippers the rate charged would be £2-7-6 less a cash discount of -/5/-. In both cases measurement would, pending the receipt of the new agreement, be carried out in Calcutta.

The terms of this letter were to be brought to the notice of members so that those willing to give the necessary assurance might have an opportunity of doing so.

**INDIAN ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS :—**A letter dated 22nd May had been received from the Government of Bengal, Appointment

Department, asking the Association to publish as widely among members as possible the fact that several formal commissions for gentlemen who served in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers during the war, received by the Military Secretary, Army Headquarters, still were awaiting distribution as the gentlemen concerned had been demobilised and their addresses were unknown.

The Committee directed that the terms of this letter should be circularised to members.

**NOTE ON THE PRODUCTION OF TEA IN INDIA : BURMA TEA RETURNS :—** Paragraphs on this subject have appeared in the proceedings of the last two meetings. Since the last Committee meeting information had been received from Mr. Harper of the Tea Cess Committee explaining that the proposal to omit from the above Note the figures of tea grown in Burma would not in any material way affect the accuracy of that Note as almost all the tea grown in Burma was converted into pickled tea for use locally.

The Committee had therefore replied to the original reference from the officiating Director of Statistics, India, to the effect that they were of the opinion that the Burma tea return might in future be omitted from the said Note.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

**INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS TOURNAMENT.** In the second round, which has now been completed, the Shevaroy's had to scratch against the High Range and the Nilgiris against the U. P. A. S. I., as, unfortunately, dates of playing could not be arranged to suit all the teams. The semi-finals now start and have to be completed by the 15th August. In this, the High Range are to meet Central Travancore and the Wynad play the U. P. A. S. I. It is to be hoped that these matches will be played out, as, up to date in the tournament, only three matches have been actually played out of the six on the programme.

**COFFEE MARKET.** It is stated that the recent dull tone of the Coffee market is due to the state of the Continental Exchanges which has hampered the movement of stocks of Coffee previously bought for export, and, consequently, stocks are not going into consumption as quickly as was anticipated.

**TEA.** The demand at public auctions has been slow and the prices have generally declined about 1d. a lb. all round.

**RUBBER MARKET.** By the 19th June stocks had risen to 70,022 tons and prices have been low and irregular. Cable advices notify that the Dutch Planters have, by a 2/3rd majority, resolved to ask their Government for assistance in some way, which will probably take the form of restriction. This news caused considerable excitement in Mincing Lane, and the price of spot rubber immediately advanced  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.

**CARDAMONS.** The market is firm for all ordinary qualities, and there is a good demand for Fine Bold.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### MONTHLY REPORT COIMBATORE DIVISION.

**WEATHER.** The Tamil District continues to experience showers. Attur and that side of the Koliemallai Hills have a plentiful supply of water, not only from rain, but by having their tanks well filled by the small rivers running from the Koliemallai Hills on one side and from the Shevoroy's on the other. Thus this part is fairly prosperous as far as agriculture goes, paddy cultivation and cocoanut gardens being abundant. At the time of my visit there I noticed some paddy just being planted, and it was considered to be early for doing so. Sankridroog—Namakal side is in a critical position owing to the lack of rain, and cultivation will suffer seriously if rain does not come soon. Gobichettipalayam and district have had rain but nothing like enough.

The West Coast District had been let down, so far, by the monsoon which, up to the time of my visit, had failed. Eastwards from Calicut, the cry for rain steadily became louder up to Palghat, where the Ryots were very pessimistic. However the paddy, the principle crop, was all in, and, on the night of my return, the West

Coast experienced a real burst of monsoon. On the whole I think the Ryot, like the farmer at home, is chronically pessimistic as regards the weather, as I understand that, during the latter part of the month, the monsoon has done its duty.

**LABOUR.** Coolies still continue to go up from the Tamil District, and more Estates this month have informed me that they have enough labour. The West Coast coolies are rather sticky in going up, and if asked Why? the answer invariably is:—"The Ghat is unsafe" but I think they are beginning to realise that it is all right now. The coolies who have gone up, send back reports which encourage the rest to move and that is naturally a slow process. Gobichettipalayam District is practically drained of all surplus coolies now, as the prices of food stuffs have been and still are high. Attur District labour still gives a lot of trouble, though there are one or two exceptions, and in these cases the gangs are large. There are not a great many surplus coolies there for the reason given under "weather" i. e, the District is prosperous; hence the large gangs of the successful maistries take all the best coolies. Coolies there were engaged in harvesting Cholan crop which was very good this year. On the Namakal side (the other side of the Koliemallai Hills) the Cholan crop is poor. Coolies from there are going up steadily, and in larger gangs now that the Trichengode Car-Festival is over.

Palghat and District appear to have no new coolies to spare as the Local Fund, Municipality, Railway, small tile-works and last, but not by any means least, Government works (road and Forest) not far from Oliverkot, absorb large numbers. The old coolies however are going up with their maistries, though slower here than those from further East. Near the West Coast, coolies find ample work in the ports and tile-works, as well as in paddy cultivation; the former two differ from many of the other occupations, in that the coolies are required practically the whole year round, the ports only being closed for about three months in the year. There is some surplus of Cheruma caste coolies.

Wages may be taken as As. 8. and As. 6. for men and women respectively throughout the whole of this Division; though As. 10. can be earned in some places by over-time. At several places in the West Coast District, a free meal is provided as well. In some instances, where the free meal is given, the wage is an anna or two less, but this only applies to the out-lying places.

**PRICES OF GRAINS.** These practically remain as they were last month. In my next and subsequent reports I hope to be able to publish the Pollachi Shandy prices.

Rice (very inferior quality) in Calicut,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -7 Calicut Measures per the Rs. 1.

In Palghat  $3\frac{3}{4}$ -4 Madras Measures per the Rs. 1.

In Gobichettipalayam, same as in Palghat, if anything more expensive



**N. B.** A Calicut Measure is half a Madras Measure.

**HEALTH.** In the West Coast District, the health on the whole is good; except on the coast where there are cases of influenza and also a fair amount of Dysentery.

In the Tamil District the health has improved since last month, and the conditions as regards to health very nearly normal.

Coimbatore }  
2nd July 1922 }

J. H. BENNET  
Superintendent.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 22. (22nd June—1st July)

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, returned to headquarters on the morning of 28th June. Mr. Anstead has been away since 19th May and accompanied by the Government Entomologist, Mr. E. Ballard, has carried out an extensive tour of inspection in Cochin and Travancore. A combined report on this tour written by these two officers will shortly appear in the pages of the Chronicle.

### THE EXPERIMENT STATION. (19th—25th June)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, a little rain fell on each day of the week and a total of 1.92 inches was recorded. Monsoon conditions appear promising. Handling and suckering of the coffee is being continued, and was done over  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres during the week. Hand weeding and lopping of *Erythrina lithosperma* for a mulch was done over 9 acres.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, a total of 4.49 inches of rain was recorded distributed over six days. This rain interfered a good deal with tapping. A total of 104.5 lbs. of wet sheet and 11.31 lbs. of wet scrap was obtained during the week.

System. Yield per tree per day.

		in oz.
Plots 1 to 12.	One-third daily.	0.246
Plot 13.	One-third daily.	0.259
Plot 14.	One-third alternate days.	0.263
Plot 14 a.	Half alternate days.	0.278
Plot 15.	One-third daily.	0.218
Plot 16.	One-third daily.	0.283
Plots 17 to 19.		0.218

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, rain fell on each day except 21st giving a total of 3.20 inches. There was no tapping on 24th. The Station was visited during the week by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, and the Government Entomologist. The crop harvested was 87.61 lbs. of wet sheet and 7.27 lbs. of wet scrap.

System,	Yield per tree per day	
	in oz.	
Plots 1 to 14.	One-third daily.	0.42
Plots 16, 19 and 20.	One-third daily	0.49
Plot 17.	One-third alternate days.	0.62
Plots 15 and 18.	Half alternate days.	0.68
Plot 24.	One-third daily in morning.	0.47
	One-third daily in evening.	0.46
	One-third daily in evening only.	0.43

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### NORTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT  
MARGUNDY ON THE 18TH JUNE 1922.

*Present*:— Messrs. C. H. Browne. (Chairman) W. H. Reed, E. W. Fowke, E. L. Poyser, F. I. Morgan. *Visitors*, T. A. S. Webb & F. Cannan.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

**YELLAGODE ESTATE SUBSCRIPTION.** Read letter from Mr. O. Scot Skirving dated 8-3-22, explaining his reasons for declining to continue a member at the present rate of subscription. He wished to support the Association which had done such good work in the past, and was willing to make an annual donation without claiming any voting powers.

The Chairman said Mr. Skirving had been a staunch member of the Association since its inception and had taken an active part in Planting, politics. He hoped, if the Labour Department was made a separate Department, Mr. Skirving might see his way to rejoin.

It was *unanimously resolved*:—

"That the Secretary be requested to acknowledge Mr. Scot Skirving's letter, expressing the Association's keen appreciation of his Public spirited action, and gladly accepts his generous offer."

**ELECTION OF DASARA REPRESENTATIVE.** Mr. E. W. Fowke was elected to attend the Representative Assembly on behalf of the Association.

**General Committee U. P. A. S. I.** Mr. E. L. Poyser was elected member of the General Committee in place of Mr. H. Browne resigned.

**Delegates to Annual Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I.**:—Messrs. Poyser & Fowke were elected.

**INTER DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.** Additional Inter-District Labour Rules Nos. X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, were discussed, and approved.

**LABOUR RATES OF PAY.** Proposed by Mr. Fowke seconded by Mr. Morgan:—

"The Honorary Secretary be requested to circularise all Members with a view to standerdisation of wages" *Carried*.



LABOUR DEPARTMENT. After considerable discussion the following resolution proposed by Mr. Fowke, seconded by Mr. Morgan, was *carried unanimously*:—

“In the opinion of this Association it is desirable, in the interests of subscribers, that the Labour Department shall be a separate Branch of the U. P. A. S. I.”

RULES OF N. M. P. A. Messrs. W. H. Reed and E. L. Poyser were appointed to revise and bring up to date the rules of the Association, and submit them at the next Meeting.

BENEVOLENT FUND. Read letter from the Assistant Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. It was resolved:

“That all members be circularised and strongly urged to join the Fund and send their subscriptions at an early date.”

COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS. Proposed by Mr. Reed seconded by Mr. Fowke.

“That subscriptions to the N. M. P. A., other than those collected by the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I., be collected once a year in advance, so long as Subscriptions to the U. P. A. S. I. are collected direct by the U. P. A. S. I.”

CORRESPONDENCE. Read letter from the Manager, “Madras Mail.”

Read letter, re ex Service Association, from the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS. Messrs. Fowke and Reed spoke on the danger to the Public owing to the narrow culverts and very sharp turns on the Kotagahurra-Kalasa road. It was resolved:—

“That the chief Engineer be requested to widen the culverts to at least 20 feet and cut back the corners which are a great danger to the travelling Public.”

SOUTH CANARA SECTION OF BOOND GHAUT. Mr. Morgan confirmed the reports of cartman, who complain bitterly of the state of this road. The Chairman said he had lately passed over it from the Mysore Frontier, to Charmaddi. The cartman had his sympathy; for some years this one-time fine road had steadily deteriorated. Owing to neglect, its condition was deplorable. Proposed from the Chair:—

“That the Hony. Secretary do write to the Collector of South Canara pointing out the disgraceful condition of the South Canara section of the Boond Ghaut. This section has deteriorate to such an extent that it promises to be closed to wheeled traffic very shortly, notwithstanding, the high tolls levied. Further this Association would suggest that the Official responsible for its condition be requested to inspect the road in his own car.” *Carried unanimously.*

W. BROWNE,  
Hony. Secretary,

C. H. BROWNE,  
President,

## CONDITIONS INFLUENCING THE SETTING OF COFFEE CROPS.

(By "Planter", in the *"Indian Scientific Agriculturist"*)

Prospects for the coming season's Coffee crop are very promising throughout Coorg. As a result of favourable rain, there has been a magnificent display of blossom on most estates.

Fortunately, in the majority of cases, no small precipitations had occurred previously, for the effect of these is to bring out the forward buds, and to push forward a large proportion of the remainder just sufficiently to cause them to be scorched and destroyed.

The orthodox minimum of rain for bringing out coffee blossom wholly at one time is one inch. Of course, it does not matter if it should be 25 per cent. less if the season is well advanced, and the bud consequently forward. In exceptional cases handsome crops have been known to result from precipitations of no more than 30 or 40 per cent.

There are certain conditions which militate against the successful setting of crop. At the recent meeting of the South Mysore Planters' Association, the Chairman, Mr. Lake, stated that owing to excessive rain during the blossoming period the past season's coffee crop was a most disappointingly small one. It was not said that rain fell on the open blossom, though to do harm even then it would be necessary for the rain to fall almost simultaneously with the opening of the blossom, for we have it on the authority of Mr. J. Cameron, late Superintendent of Parks and Gardens to the Mysore Government, that in the case of an evanescent blossom like coffee only a few hours of sunshine are necessary for the completion of its fertilisation. Although this is borne out by the fact that handsome crops have been harvested in cases where heavy rain has fallen in the afternoons following the mornings on which the blossom has opened, yet planters generally would like to see two or three clear days succeeding the opening of the blossom. Only on one occasion have I had experience of the unmitigated damage caused by rain falling on blossom almost directly it opened, as from the nature of things it is bound to occur so seldom. It began to rain during the small hours of the morning on which the blossom opened, and although it was gentle, the harm it did was unmistakable, as only one-fifth of the estimated crop was harvested. Bees and other insects may not be absolutely essential for the fertilisation of coffee blossom, for it has been proved by protecting trees by netting to exclude insects from visiting the flowers, that they are capable of self fertilisation, though the resultant crop is poor and appears to be an effort on the part of the trees to save themselves from extinction; but it has been noticed that in cases where insects, especially bees, are conspicuous by their absence, or where they are sparsely represented at the flowering time, the show of blossom is out of all proportion to the crop realised. A notion appears to be prevalent amongst some planters that the fertilisation of the coffee blossom takes place when the bud has reached the stage of development just before it opens though if it



dissected at this period, it will be found that the lobes of the stigma are just beneath the apex of the bud, and far out of reach of the anthers; and on the opening of it, the petals and anthers fall away from the stigma, which stands erect and protrudes far out of the Corolla. It is surprising that scepticism should exist at so late a day as to the part played by insects in bringing about the cross fertilisation of flowers, when all Botanists are agreed that the provision of nectaries, scents and colours in flowers are all designed for the express purpose of attracting insects, and white flowers, such as the coffee blossom, also attract nocturnal insects. With regard to the objection that the many millions of bees and other insects that would be necessary if the fertilisation of the coffee blossom was dependent upon them would not be forthcoming if coffee flowered throughout a Province like Coorg at about the same time, it is to be noted that a single bee fertilises an incredible number of flowers in a short time. It crawls over the clusters of blossom distributing, as it must while doing so, the pollen adhering to its body on to the Stigmas of the flowers over which it passes. The cross-fertilisation which results is between flower and flower on the same tree. This has been likened to the marriage of cousins. It is only when an insect flits from one tree to another that there is any chance of cross-fertilisation between tree and tree being brought about, but as probably the blossom of all other trees have been fertilised between flower and flower on the same individual, it follows that there must be an infinitesimal amount of real cross fertilisation between one tree and another. The arrangement of the parts of the coffee blossom is such as to preclude self-fertilisation, and this is only resorted to in the extreme case of the flowers not being visited by insects, and seems to be brought about by the stigmas bending over and coming in contact with an anther from which pollen grains are transferred to it. That cross-fertilisation does take place, though rarely, is proved by the hybrids between Coffee Arabica and Coffee Liberica which resulted when both species happened to blossom simultaneously in Mysore and Wynaad.

Of so much importance is the presence of bees during the flowering time, deemed in parts of the coffee districts of Central America that planters have interested themselves in the raising of bees, not so much for the honey, but because bees are useful in pollinizing coffee, especially when rain is prevalent during bloom. The opinion appears to be held in the parts referred to that when the weather is dry, the pollen is capable of being carried by the wind from the anthers to the stigmas; but that during rain bees are necessary for distributing the pollen. In these parts the nonsetting of blossom during the prevalence of rain is attributed largely to the fact that the wet prevents bees visiting the flowers. It is difficult to see how it can be said that the coffee plant belongs to the class of plants the flowers of which are wind fertilised. The very fact that the flowers are provided with nectaries and possess scent would appear to preclude this, because the flowers of wind-fertilised plants and trees are generally inconspicuous, possess no scent, and produce pollen in great abundance. Mr. Anstead, Deputy Director of Agri-

culture, Planting Districts, has consistently advocated the keeping of bees by coffee planters. Unfortunately, the only Indian species of bees that lends itself to domestication is *Apis Indica*, and it is a poor honey producer, besides which, according to Mr. Bainbrigge-Fletcher, Government Entomologist, it is liable to attacks from wax-moths, and it is difficult on that account to induce a colony to remain in a hive for more than a few months. It has been said that it is quite feasible to domesticate Italian bees in India by introducing an Italian queen bee in a hive of *Apis Indica*. This can only be determined by experiment, and it is well-worth trying. The Coorgs and some other Indians have a primitive method of domesticating bees. The "hives" provided are earthen pots in which small holes are bored. The inside of the pots are smeared with honey and wax and are soon found to be in the occupation of a swarm of *Apis Indica*, which, it is supposed, has been attracted to the pots by the smell of the honey and wax. It appears a fairly efficient method of raising colonies of bees, and planters might do worse than adopting it as an effective means of insuring the pollination of the coffee blossom.

A potent cause of the failure of coffee blossom to set and one not generally recognised is the use of a badly balanced mixture of manures. This must often occur, since planters generally rely on bones, poonacs and mixtures of fish in addition to mulchings from leguminous shade trees for manuring their Estates. While these add little of the constituents mostly required by coffee crops, viz: potash they may supply an excess of Nitrogen.

Nitrogen is necessary and indeed highly advantageous when used in conjunction with proper amounts of phosphate and potash as pointed out in one of my earlier articles, yet if used alone in excess it will produce disappointing results,

Investigations in the U. S. A., that land where scientific enquiry has been brought almost to perfection, have shown that the excessive use of Nitrogen induces plants and trees to produce a profusion of wood and foliage to the detriment of the crop.

The late Mr. Pringle, formerly Agricultural Chemist to Messrs. Matheson & Co., of Coorg, was very much puzzled at the fact that the shows of blossom were generally out of all proportion to the crops harvested till he came across the above explanation in an Agricultural Bulletin issued by the Agricultural Department of the U. S. A. The conclusion which was forced upon Mr. Pringle has been corroborated by Mr. Anstead and was well exemplified in the case of an estate which, though it had prior to the war received small percentages of potash in the manure mixtures applied to it, owing to the source from which it was obtainable being cut off, received nothing of this valuable fertiliser during the continuance of the war, this estate produced a profusion of blossom which was estimated to turn out 80 tons of crop at least, but yielded only 53 tons or at the rate of about 3 cwt. per acre.

Had sufficient phosphates and especially potash been used with the Nitrogen no doubt the original estimate would have been realized if not exceeded.



## PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF MALAYA.

The following are extracts from the Annual Report of the planters' Association of Malaya, presented at the 15th Annual General Meeting held on the 21st of June 1922:—

.....

It is realised that a big crop reduces the cost of output a small crop increases it proportionately, so that, to the already manifold troubles of the planter, is added that of deciding how little rubber he can produce at a remunerative rate. Whether restriction is adopted or not, the cost of production must be kept low, and a low cost of production is dependent upon an economical amount being produced. All this reducing of costs does not alter the fundamental fact that growers are producing more rubber than the world is consuming.

The condemnation of forward sales by the Rubber Grower's Association has caused more or less heated discussion. Some hold that in many cases forward sales have helped estates lacking funds to carry on. Again, many companies owe their comparatively strong positions in the slump to wisely made forward contracts. Others claim that selling forward at present is bad business for the producer, as only the manufacturer is benefited; that the industry is imperilled because so long as consumers can obtain rubber at the present low prices by means of forward contracts values will remain low. Although the prices obtained show a certain margin of profit the present costs of production are really fictitious, having been arrived at in most cases by unsound economies such as reducing labour forces and paying off European Superintendents. When prices make production profitable once more, a shortage of labour will result in high wages that will more than counterbalance the profit made owing to previous low costs.

.....

The following table shows the per capita consumption of rubber in various countries and has been compiled with the utmost care:—

United States	...	4. 15
Great Britain	...	1. 48
France	...	1. 00
Italy	...	. 50
Germany	...	. 31
Japan	...	. 35

From this it will be seen at a glance that there is ample scope for propaganda in the United Kingdom alone, and that if three times the present allowance were consumed the quantity per head would be barely the same as that of America. Yet the per capita consumption could be easily and advantageously equalled at home, whilst were rubber more generally used through the Empire—as it is hoped it soon will be—our dependence on the American trade would be at an end and consumption enormously increased.

Considerable attention was given to an unbreakable dust and splinter proof container for packing rubber which is the invention of the Gjorup Bros. The idea of the invention is to provide a means whereby the lower grades of rubber—especially bark crepes etc., may be utilised for casing material without destroying the value of the crepe used. The all-rubber container is built in layers by using three or four layers of low grade crepe, the whole forming an unbreakable dust, splinter and water proof case.

The materials and implements required for making the container are 10 to 12 lbs of low grade crepe, a wooden core on which to fashion and assemble the case, a common hammer, about 7 yards of wire metal and, to prevent the contents from adhering to the container, a little French Chalk or China clay. Those who have seen the invention in use, and who are in a possession to judge, are convinced that Messrs. Gjorup Brothers' patent would effect a great saving in labour and money.

Messrs. Mace Hall & Co., Ltd., of Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh are now manufacturing motor car and motor cycle tyres. Judging by their appearance, they are equal to European or American tyres and it is expected that the selling prices will be considerably lower.

The Peachy Process, although over two years old has aroused interest in rubber producing countries in the East during the last year, chiefly on account of the fact that a company has been formed to start operations in Ceylon and Malaya.

This process which consists essentially of the cold vulcanization of rubber by the interaction of two gases—sulphurdioxide and hydrogen sulphide—is chiefly of value in respect of its application of new uses for rubber. Its chief disadvantage would appear to be its application to the manufacture of thick articles which would require to be built up from thin vulcanized materials.

The Peachy two-solution process however may partly overcome the above disadvantage. One of the principal advantages over the hot vulcanization process is the fact that various organic pigments and dyes can be incorporated with the rubber since the colours are not destroyed during the vulcanization.

Another interesting process with considerable possibilities is that invented by Dr. Phillip Schidrowitz. This consists in the addition of vulcanization agents to latex or the liberation of nascent sulphur from certain compounds containing sulphur when added to the latex which is subsequently coagulated or evaporated. It has been found that, when latex so treated is evaporated or the coagulated rubber is dried, the resultant rubber is vulcanized. An advantage of this process is the possibility of adding organic colouring matters to the latex which are not destroyed subsequently. The application of such latex to fabrics for the manufacture of waterproof material or in lieu of solutions of raw rubber for the canvas layers in the construction of tyres etc., has considerable scope.



Smoked sheet and thin pale crepe still continue to constitute the two types of first grade rubber, although some interest is still being taken by American buyers in "slab" rubber and a few estates have been manufacturing this type of rubber during the year. Attention might be drawn to the considerable consumption of wood in the smoking of rubber, which in the near future may become a serious problem both from the point of view of estate expenditure and also from the point of view of conserving the local resources.

INDIAN LABOUR: A sufficiency of labour is vital to the welfare, development and prosperity of Malaya and the rubber industry is largely dependent upon Indian labour.

For years those who have had their finger on the pulse of the labour market, as applied to the agricultural industries have viewed with alarm the problem of providing Malaya with an adequate supply of labour.

In mid 1920, the shortage of Indian labour was most acute and the General Labour Committee was constituted to investigate the causes of the shortage and to make recommendations for increasing the supply of labour. One of the most unfortunate results of discharging labour and of losing touch with recruiting grounds in India is that during the year a large number of labourers returned to India and doubtless expressed the views that Malaya is no longer a prosperous country but is one to which it is not worthwhile emigrating.

Part of this serious diminution in the labour force is, of course, due to the more economical management of rubber estates. Allowance has also to be made for the reduction in labour requirements owing to the increased popularity of alternate daily tapping.

The following official statistics are available in respect of the year, 1921.

Arrivals during 1921 ;—

		Adults.	Minors.
			i. e. children under 10
Assisted	F. M. S.	10,406	years of age.
	S. S.	1,724	
	Other Malay States	2,456	
Total		14,586	827.

Ordinary passengers 27,473 adults and 2,787 minors Total arrivals 45,673.

Departures from Penang during 1921, Deck for Madras and Negapatam.

	57,912	adults.
	3,639	minors.
Total departures.	61,551	

Estimated population on estates in the F. M. S. and the Colony at the end of 1921 :—

		F. M. S.	Colony.
Indian	...	121,644	21,700
Chinese	...	25,712	9 388
Japanese	...	5,732	2,428
Others	...	3,253	2 886
Total	...	156,341	36,952.

It will be noted that the country has sustained the greatest net loss in India labouring man-power since the Indian immigration Committee was created in 1907. Indeed, only in one year since 1905 was a net loss recorded and that was in 1914 when conditions were abnormal owing to the War and the consequent restrictions upon emigration from India and lack of shipping facilities.

The Indian population on estates is the lowest since rubber growing became a Malayan industry and the number of recruiting licenses issued is the lowest on record.

That the position is not improving is revealed by the following figures for the first quarter of 1922:—

January 1st to March 31st, 1922:—

	Arrivals	Departures	Net loss
Indian labourers	8,423	13,188	4,760

It will be seen that arrivals still fall far short of balancing the departures.

The following tables are not without interest:—

	1920.			1921.		
	Tamils num- ber impor- ted	Tamils num- ber locally recrui- ted	Per- cent age; impor- ted	Tamils num- ber impor- ted	Tamils num- ber locally recrui- ted	per- cent age impor- ted
Perak	18,749	24,370	43%	2,946	21,668	11%
Selangor	23,234	19,406	54%	5 543	17,508	24%
Negri Sembilan	5,045	10,531	36%	1,986	14,105	12%
Penang	671	2,189	23%	226	2,620	7%
Government Depts	672	14,743	4%	295	10 406	2%



The outstanding feature of the year was the introduction of the Indian Emigration Bill in the Indian Legislature in March, 1921. The importance of the subject to the planting industry cannot be over-emphasized; any measure which affects the regular influx of labour being, of course, of vital importance to the future welfare not only of the rubber industry but of the whole country.

The most striking provision of the Indian Emigration Bill is that contained in Section 10 which provides that emigration for the purpose of unskilled work is prohibited except to such countries and on such terms and conditions as the Governor General in Council by notification in the Gazette of India may specify, and that no such notification shall be made unless the emigration scheme has been laid in draft before both Chambers of the Indian Legislature and has been approved by a resolution of each Chamber. Sir George Barnes only too truly stated that "the net result of this clause of the Bill is that emigration of all unskilled labour will be forbidden unless and until both Chambers of the Legislature agree that the door should be open." This surely goes far beyond what is required in order to prevent indentured labour and to "frame safeguards for the health and protection of the would-be emigrants." Sir George Barnes's apologia for this drastic provision was that it would "give the two houses of the Legislature opportunities to scrutinise each scheme and opportunities also to lay down such conditions as they may in each case think necessary in the interests of the emigrants." At the very best, given that both Chambers are reasonably determined to allow due and proper emigration. Imagine the delays and difficulties of such requirements.

The Bill was subsequently referred to a Select Committee who reported upon it and, with minor amendments, it duly became an Act (No. VII of 1922) and received the assent of the Governor-General of India on March 5th, 1922.

Malaya was excluded from the Indian Emigration Act of 1908 (which was replaced by the 1922 Act) but is subject to the provisions of the new Act. However owing to the fact that emigration to Malaya would be interrupted pending the issue of notifications under Section 10 of the Act, the framing of rules under sections 22 and 24 and the appointment of officers under various clauses, emigration to the Straits Settlements and the Malay Peninsula is exempted from the operation of the Act for twelve months from the date of the commencement of the Act.

Put briefly, the net result of this sinister Act, it is feared, will be to toll "the death-knell of the Kangany system so patiently built up". On March 5th, 1923, the day of the Act comes into force so far as Malaya is concerned, systematic and organized recruiting of Indian labour becomes unlawful and will not be possible, until a scheme has been submitted fulfilling the requirements of both Chambers, which requirements are to date unknown. One thing is sure and that is

they will not be limited entirely to actual safeguards in the interest of the health and protection of emigrants. Political considerations are to control one at least of these conditions and it is to be insisted upon that Indian Emigrants in the country to which they travel are to enjoy the same political rights as other classes of his Majesty's subjects. The Association is not concerned with politics except so far as they affect the planting industries of Malaya and it expresses no opinion on the desirability or otherwise of such requirements. It must, however, be pointed out that while both Chambers are availing themselves of the opportunities "to scrutinise each scheme and to lay down such conditions as they may in each case think necessary" the influx of Indian labour to this country will have ceased.

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### LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

#### SRIVILLIPUTTUR DIVISION.

Subscribers who make use of the U. P. A. S. I. Office at Srivilliputtur for advancing their maistries are reminded that no where in that place can cheques be cashed. It does not matter when cheques are sent in payment of accounts or in making Deposits beforehand for expenses, but it is useless a subscriber sending a cheque to the superintendent at Srivilliputtur for advancing maistries, unless such cheques reach this Office at least 10 days before the advance has to be made. If subscribers wish maistries to be advanced they must please send cash (notes) for the purpose. If cheques are sent, and maistries are kept waiting 10 days before they can be cashed to pay them, it does incalculable harm to the name of the Department as far as labour is concerned.

The Superintendent has been instructed only to advance maistries if cash has been sent to him by the Estate for the purpose.

H. WADDINGTON.

Director, U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### MANGALORE DIVISION REPORT—JUNE 1922.

**Weather.** Monsoon conditions established themselves about the 15th June since when abundant rain has fallen.

**Crops.** Sowing of the first crop is complete in most parts of the District, and promises to be a good one.

**Price of Grain.** There has been a rise in the price of grain as is usual about this time, and a mura of rice of 82 lbs now costs Rs. 8/- to 8/8/-. Prices will drop to normal as soon as the present growing crop is reaped.

**Labour.** Majority of Tea Estates labour has left for the estates, while coffee estate coolies are commencing to move also. On the whole the recruiting season has passed off fairly peacefully.

**Health.** Is good on the whole.

F. W. WINTER BOTHAM,  
Superintendent.

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### MYSORE DIVISION REPORT—JUNE 1922.

*The Weather* has been on the whole fairly seasonable. In the South of the State good showers have fallen and crop prospects are fair, in the Northern Districts however the prospects are not so good and showers are badly needed.

*Prices of foodstuffs* have risen greatly since last month and at Gundlupet the latest shandy prices are

Ragi per pullah of 100 Mysore seers	Rs. 13/-
Rice	25/-
Cholam	13-8/-
Gram	14/-

In the districts north of Mysore prices are about As. 8 to Re. 1/- per pullah more owing to crop prospects not being so good. Batches of coolies have been seen going in and it is hoped that this year maistries will have their contracted number of coolies. In the Tumkur, Maddagiri, and Gubbi Taluks the collection of 'Thangodi' bark still seems to be a lucrative business and contractors still give out heavy advances and absorb labour that used to go into the Coffee Estates.

*Labour.* On arrival of maistries back on the Estates may I request Managers and Superintendents to impress on them the absolute necessity of producing their coolies before me or my agents when asking for way expenses, as my orders from the Estates are invariable in that respect.

During the past month I have received innumerable applications for way expenses but not more than one in ten of the maistries have produced their coolies or fresh agreements that they have made with them, but have made various excuses of their inability to do so, hence they have gone away empty handed. It is an old and somewhat worn out trick of maistries to send urgent letters or wires to the Estates informing them that numerous coolies are ready and only waiting for way expenses to be sent, on investigation it usually proves to be only a dodge to extract more money.

C. C. KENT,  
Superintendent.

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### TOUR OF THE GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST.

The following are extracts from the Report of Mr. E. Ballard, Government Entomologist, of a tour which he has just completed in the Planting Districts of Cochin, Mundakayam and Central Travancore.

I will divide the pests into three groups, Pests of green manures, Pests of rubber and Pests of tea,



(1) *Tephrosia candida*. (*Boga medalloa*.)

This plant which is coming increasingly into favour and the use of which the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, so strongly advocates suffers from four pests of major importance. The distribution of these pests is not universal and in all places they are not of first class importance.

The first two are scales (*Ceroplastodes* Sp. and *Ceroplastes* Sp.) which affect all the upper parts of the branches and cover them with sticky excreta on which grows a fungus of sooty appearance. The effect of these scales is to cause the death of the upper branches of the Tephrosia and on one estate a great amount of damage had been done to Tephrosia in a young clearing. It was noticed that under old rubber Tephrosia was if not entirely immune from these scales at least very nearly so and in any case fungus and Hymenopterous parasites were keeping it under very severe control. With the incidence of the monsoon this fungus control will considerably increase. Where ever the scale had taken hold of the Tephrosia it was in the open or less heavily shaded areas that it was doing the worst damage. Even in the open, at the time when I saw it, there were several agencies at work keeping or attempting to keep it under control.

The simplest method of reducing damage done by these scales is to cut the Tephrosia over as soon as it shows signs of getting anything approaching a heavy attack. Should this season bring a normal monsoon it is quite probable that little will be seen of the scales next year. There is not much doubt that the exhausted state of the bushes after the recent severe and exceptional drought did much to encourage the spread of the scales.

The appearance of the scales is unmistakable. Both will be seen clustering in white or grey waxy masses (one has a much more pronounced waxy covering than the other) on the Tips of the Tephrosia branches and sometimes, in fact more often than not in the case of severe attack, the scales spread all the way down the branch. The scales are always attended by ants. The more obviously the wax covered scale *Ceroplastes* Sp. is the more common of the two. A species of Aphis on green fly was seen here and there on a few Tephrosia plants but did not appear to be of any importance. This aphis is a small black or very dark green insect generally found clustered on the top shoots under more or less normal conditions. I do not think it need cause any anxiety.

There are two pests which in certain localities are a great source of trouble for those wishing to keep Tephrosia for seed. These are an Anthribid beetle and a Lepidopterous caterpillar both of which bore into the pod and devour the seed. These two insects are most destructive and in certain parts make it almost impossible to obtain seed.

Tephrosia flowers twice a year and although all plants do not flower simultaneously there are two definite flowering periods. Where it is desired to keep Tephrosia for seed, I would suggest, in localities where these two pod boring pests are prevalent, that no attempt should be made to get seed from the first crop of pods, but that when these pods are half ripe that they should all be picked off and destroyed. The second crop should then only be slightly affected and it ought to be possible to get all the seed required. This is purely a suggestion but I certainly think it worth a trial. Great care should however be taken to see that the pod picking of the first crop is thorough.

*Desmodium Sp.* An example was found of a mealy bug on the roots of this plant which is an excellent Erosion preventer as well as being a leguminous plant. I do not think that any danger need be apprehended from this source.

RUBBER. There are two main pests of rubber as far as could be seen, both of them potential pests rather than actual and neither widely distributed. Both however should be very carefully watched as they would be capable of doing considerable damage once they became firmly established. These two insects are a scale and a caterpillar.

The scale is a species of Lecanium and is found on the leaves and petioles and branches of Hevea trees. Heavily infested trees become blackened and a considerable amount of leaf fall takes place.

Further details concerning this insect, the amount of parasitism and the recommendations made by me for dealing with it have already been published in the Planters' Chronicle in an extract from the Rubber Mycologist's report so that it is unnecessary to repeat them here. One mistake of the Rubber Mycologist should be corrected. The scale in question, a small brown flattened scale, slightly kidney shaped is certainly not *L. hemisphericum* as suggested by him. The specimens collected by me have been sent to England for exact identification.

The caterpillar pest is a red flattened caterpillar, when fully grown about an inch in length. It feeds under a web on the bark of Rubber trees either on the renewing bark or on other parts of the tree, generally at a height of about 3 feet from the ground up to the region of the first branches. Its distribution is probably universal on Travancore and Cochin, as it was seen at Mooply, Peermade, (not on rubber) and Tenmalai.

The first generation appears to begin in January but it may be earlier and there are apparently from observation made by the Farm Manager at Tenmalai experiment Station, two broods in the year though there may be three. From May onwards to December the insect appears to leave the rubber trees (none was seen on the rubber at Tenmalai at the end of June, though specimens were found in the jungle.)



After feeding for about three weeks or so the caterpillar pupates under a piece of bark in a web, a small excavation having been made by it for the purpose. The silk web covered with bark chip-pings under which it has fed remains on the tree.

The moth which comes out ten days after pupation is a small white insect with minute black spots on the wings. It has been sent for identification. There is no evidence to show that the caterpillars eat down to the latex, they appeared to confine themselves to the dead bark and while they remain high up on the tree this would not matter very much, except that they might make way for fungus diseases. The danger arises when they feed on either renewing bark or on the tapping surface. This latter contingency could be obviated by the use of tar and tallow—as is the practice on many estates, but the former requires a different treatment. Where there are signs that the attack of this insect is going to be serious (and the first attack should be looked for probably in late December or early January) boys could be employed to scrape the caterpillars off the bark with stiff brushes, a perfectly simple and inexpensive operation.

There are many points about both these pests which require elucidation. For example in the case of the *Lecanium* one would like to know whether it is only those trees which have suffered badly from *Phytophthora meadii* which are liable to get scale or not, and whether the successful treatment of the fungus will also do away with the scale. For the bark eating caterpillar it is desirable that the exact numbers of the broods and the time of their first appearance should be known and also whether there is any aestivation period.

It might be mentioned in passing that a large hairy caterpillar is sometimes found feeding on the bark of rubber trees, but it is not eating the actual bark but the mosses and lichens to be found on it. This insect therefore is not only harmless but mildly beneficial.

TEA. Apart from mosquito Blight which I will deal with separately there is a variety of insect pests on tea of more or less importance but many of them are very susceptible to conditions of cultivation and fitness on the part of the plant. Others do not do an appreciable amount of damage though they must cause some slight loss to the general crop.

The first of these is the flush worm, *Homona coffearia*. On no Estate visited by me were there any complaints made as to loss from this insect, at the same time in my opinion it would generally pay if systematic plucking of the folded leaves were undertaken in all estates where flush worm exists in any numbers.

Green advocates picking off leaves containing the egg masses and also the hanging of the dry *Grevillea* branches amongs the bushes to attract the moths, the bushes being visited every morning and shaken into a sack the moths being then destroyed by banging the

sack on the ground. In all probability though the simple picking off of attacked leaves should be sufficient (I should like to see a sample of tea made entirely from flush worm attacked leaf. One would then tell whether or not it was really worth bothering about.)

(?) *Those i cervina. Slug caterpillars.* These caterpillars in some seasons do a great deal of damage by defoliating the bushes. Their cocoons which resemble tea seeds are to be found at the bases of the bushes and should be collected and destroyed. Mr. Knight of Ambanad Estate showed me a fungus which was growing on those cocoons and presumably exercising a certain amount of control.

*Bag-worm. Arbela Sp.* There is an unidentified caterpillar which bores into the stem of the tea leaving outside a long narrow silk bag. It feeds on the bark of the tea bushes and hides in the hole in the main stem by day. The actual amount of damage appears to be small. The habits are like those of arbela Sp. but no moths have been reared out. I might mention in passing that I find it generally impossible to rear insects sent from tea districts at Coimbatore where our hot dry climate appears to be inimical to development of the hill living species. This of course is only to be expected and a proper study of tea pests could only be made at a station in the tea districts and any work on the life history of tea pests is impossible at Coimbatore. Some such place as Peermade would make a good centre.

*Mites.* The purple mite-Phytotus carinatus.

I only came across one example of this being in pest conditions and in this case it was entirely driven away by deepening the drains. Mites are very susceptible to cultivation methods of control and are often a symptom rather than a disease and any improvement in the general health of the crop will suffice to keep them in check, a fact which applies to many pests, notably thrips and aphids.

*Grasshoppers.* I noticed a very large number of grasshoppers, chiefly of one genus (Catantops) dark brown insects coloured a deep red on the inside of the hind legs. So far as I could see they were doing no damage to tea, but I was told that one place they damaged young tea in new clearings. For these I advised the use of grasshoppers bait which has been so successful at Coimbatore. This is made up in the following proportions;—

Paris green. . . . . 1 oz.

Rice bran. . . . . 1 lb.

Plantains. . . . . 6. One tea spoonful of salt. Water enough to make the mixture damp. Mix the bran and the Paris green well together before adding the water and the plantains. Broadcast fairly thickly in the evening.



*Helopeltis theivora.* 'Mosquito Blight' of tea.

In the first place I would like to appeal to everyone concerned with tea to give up the practice of calling a *Helopeltis* a 'mosquito'. It is not a mosquito nor is it even related to one. A mosquito is a member of the order of two winged insects, the Diptera, to which the flies, house flies, etc. belong, and *Helopeltis* is a bug, a four winged insect without a metamorphosis and a totally different life history. It may seem unnecessary to emphasise the point, but from conversations I had during my tour it is undoubted that a confusion exists between the real mosquito and the so-called tea mosquito in the minds of many planters. *Helopeltis* is just as easy to say and remember as mosquito and has the additional advantage of being more accurate.

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts and I have dealt at some length with the subject of *Helopeltis* in our joint report and I will not repeat here all that we have there stated.

This report will make one thing clear and that is that a great deal of work requires to be done on the pests of tea, and the influence of different climate and soil conditions on them and on the plants themselves. First and foremost is the necessity for a really serious study of *Helopeltis*, and then secondly research on *Homona coffearia* (flush worm). In my opinion these two insects are of primary importance at least in Cochin and Travancore and the Anamalais. I have seen some flush worm in the Nilgiris but I do not know how widely it is spread.

As this study can only be carried on in the Tea districts themselves there is little or no immediate prospect of it being taken up. I except *Helopeltis* on which it should be possible to do a certain amount, but it will not be possible for me to give to it the concentrated study which it calls for.

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**MADRAS AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.**

The following are extracts from the Madras Publicity Bureau's pamphlets - "What it did in January 1922" and "What it did in February 1922";—

The Coffee Experiment station at Sidapur, in Coorg has made great strides since it was taken over two years ago. Supplies are growing well, and the plots planted side by side with Jackson's and Kent's seed, now fifteen months' old, provide an interesting demonstration of what can be done on old lands. These plots will this year be extended to include collar pruned coffee and a plot planted from seed specially selected from the best existing trees on the station itself. The plots manured with cattle manure are the most free from leaf-disease, or, at any rate, show the effect less, and this bears out the local opinion of planters that coffee manured with cattle and organic manures suffer less from leaf disease than those manured with chemicals. It will of interest to see how this idea works out

over series of years. Harvesting of the crop was finished during the month and sample bushels taken from each plot have been dried separately and will be pounded out and graded in order to obtain figures to throw light upon the effects of manuring and cultivation on the composition of the crop harvested. It is hoped that this work, after a series of years may furnish some valuable results. The effect of manures etc., on actual yield may be known, but there seems to be little available information as to whether any particular operation increases the proportion of the larger sized beans or the total weight per bushel of coffee. Owing to the dry weather conditions prevailing, little work can be done with Tea and Rubber. Mites are reported from several districts to be attacking tea. This pest is usually associated with the dry weather. The remedy is to apply sulphur dust when the leaves are wet with dew, and to pay careful attention to cultivation, especially drainage. Rubber is wintering, and tapping, generally has stopped. Arrangements are being made to conduct some grafting experiments which have proved a success in the Dutch East Indies, with special reference to trees resistant to the secondary leaf-fall. A simple process of vulcanising rubber directly from the latex has been perfected and it is probable that this may have commercial possibilities.

In the Planting Districts, hot dry weather conditions began to prevail, and not much work was being done. The rubber is wintering and tapping has not yet begun. In the tea districts a certain amount of pruning is being done, while coffee is also being pruned, and blossom showers are awaited. Green dressing crops have been sown to await the coming of the early showers to make them germinate.

A fungus known as *Colletotrichum* has been rather prevalent this year. This fungus causes a round spot on the coffee leaves, where it is often associated with leaf disease, a spot on the ripe cherry which causes a stain on the parchment and consequent deterioration of quality, and also a dying back of the branches. The remedies are good cultivation methods, pruning out of attacked wood and burning of the prunings and spraying.

At the Rubber Mycological Station, some manurial experiments were begun, in connection with the secondary leaf-fall of rubber caused by *Phytophthora*. The soluble manures were dissolved in water and applied with a watering can, one of the objects of this experiment being not to damage the roots by cultivation. It is proposed to give a second dose of the soluble manures just before the monsoon in May. These experiments are being supplemented by tests of direct root absorption of pure nutritive substances. The series of experiments laid down is fairly complete and comprehensive and it is hoped it may indicate some means of checking this disease which does so much in South India to decrease our yield, already restricted by climatic conditions.



At the Fruit farm at Coonoor, the Watt's Early Champion Peach trees planted in 1920 are fruiting profusely, and a number of young fruits have had to be removed to relieve the trees from strain and ensure first-class fruit. This variety promises to suit the climate of the Nilgiris as it develops its crop in the warm dry months.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 23. (2-9 July).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at headquarters during the week under report, engaged upon office routine and correspondence. A special report of their recent tour is being compiled by Messrs. Anstead and Ballard and this will appear in due course in the pages of the Chronicle.

2. RUBBER ON THE MOVIES. At the annual general meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry held at Glasgow on July 4-11, a novel feature was introduced in the form of Kinematograph films showing the manufacture of rubber, the production of sulphur, and the preparation of paper from wood.

3. PHOSPHATIC FERTILISERS. The Consulting Chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England in his annual report for 1921, notes a considerable fall in the price of Superphosphate and Basic Slag. 30 per cent. Superphosphate which cost £ 8.15 per ton from January to June dropped in July to £ 6.5 and in October to £ 4.10, and Basic Slag showed a similar decline. We trust that this decline in price was reflected in this country. Nauru Phosphate, which was mentioned in the *Chronicle* Volume XVI, page 806, and about which we have had a few enquiries from planters, is stated to be simply ground phosphate of lime found on certain islands in the Pacific, which formerly belonged to Germany. The practical value of such ground phosphate applied direct to the land has not yet been satisfactorily established and the consulting chemist thinks it very doubtful whether this fertiliser or the admixture of it with Basic Slag known as "Slag Phosphate" is likely to replace either Super or Basic Slag, the practical value of both of which are fully recognised. He also considers that the selling of this mixture as "Slag Phosphate" is likely to lead to a good deal of misapprehension, for farmers will naturally be inclined to think that the new material is a complete substitute for Basic Slag. The new plan may be quite a good one for using up Basic Slag of low quality, but its practical value has yet to be shown, and he thinks it should be sold under a name which does not convey the impression that it is the same thing as Basic Slag. In this opinion, we entirely agree with him and it is the attitude we adopted some years ago, with reference to a somewhat similar case in this country.

## 4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (26 June - 1st July).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, 5.82 inches of rain fell during the week, and normal monsoon conditions prevailed. Lopping of the *Erythrina lithosperma* secondary shade has been finished, and pitting for supplies will now be begun.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, monsoon conditions prevailed and 4.01 inches of rain were recorded. Owing to the heavy rain and the cold winds blowing, the growth of flush was slow. 632 lbs. of green leaf were obtained from 8.87 acres, a yield of 71 lbs. per acre. Selective weeding was done in some of the green manure plots. So far both *Tephrosia* and *Crotalaria* have withstood the rain.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, a very heavy fall of rain was experienced, viz., 18.53 inches. No tapping at all could be done on 27th and 28th, and only a little on 29th and on all days, there was a loss of latex. Abnormal leaf-fall is prevalent, and black line canker is making its appearance. The strength of the Izal solution used to prevent this has, in consequence, been increased from 2 to 5 per cent. 58 lbs. of wet sheet and 7.75 lbs. of wet scrap were obtained during the week.

System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 12 One-third daily	0.22
Plot 13 One-third daily	0.27
Plot 14 One-third alternate days	0.31
Plot 14 a. Half alternate days	0.39
Plot 15 One-third daily	0.20
Plot 16 One-third daily	0.19
Plot 17 to 19 One-third daily	0.20

At the *Rubber Experiment Station Tenmalai*, a wet week was experienced with 8.90 inches of rain. No tapping could be done on 25th, 26th, 28th and 29th, and on other days, it was much interfered with and this is reflected in the yields for the week. 34.45 lbs. of wet sheet and 2.49 lbs. of wet scrap were obtained.

System	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plot 1 to 14. One third daily.	0.32
Plots 16, 19 & 20. One third daily.	0.36
Plot 17. One third alternate days.	0.59
Plots 15 & 18 Half alternate days.	0.48
Plot 24 b. One third daily in morning.	0.47
Plot 24 a. One third daily in evening.	0.25
Plot 24 c. One third daily in evening only.	0.33

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD.

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



## WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB  
ON 5TH JULY 22.

*Present:*—Messrs. B. M. Behr (Chairman) J. E. Bisset, B. Malcolm W. G. Craig, H. R. Bowling, E. E. Eyer, S. H. Powell, B. D. Darkin and R. W. M. Hay (Hon. Secretary).  
Read Proceedings of the last Meeting.

NO. 8 REPORT OF THE ENQUIRY COMMISSION AND RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE U. P. A. S. I. It was resolved that to the resolution passed on this subject at the last Meeting, the words "of Members of the U. P. A. S. I. subscribing to it" should be added.

THE AGENDA OF THE U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL MEETING 1922. was discussed and delegates instructed.

ROADS. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Executive Engineer, Malabar, re. timber traffic on the Wynaad - Calicut as logs of over 30" are being transported over it and causing great interference with traffic.

LOCAL LABOUR COMMITTEE. By the unanimous consent of the Meeting the subject "Local Labour Committee" was taken up.

It was resolved that the following representatives of the chief interests in the District be appointed to take the place of the old Local Labour Committee and that they be empowered to appoint delegates to represent any interests prevented from acting:— Messrs. B. D. Darkin, W. G. Craig, B. Malcolm, S. H. Powell and B. M. Behr.

DELEGATES TO BANGALORE. Mr. T. P. Gauld was elected as a substitute in case either of the chosen delegates was unable to go to Bangalore.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

(Sd) B. M. BEHR.

Chairman.

(Sd) R. W. M. HAY.

Hon. Secretary.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible to the opinions of its Correspondents).*

Dear Sir,

The time of the U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting is drawing near, it is hoped the question of a definite policy for raising funds for the upkeep of the Labour Department in the future, will receive the attention of delegates,

From the point of view of the minority who do not require the services of the Labour Department, the recommendations contained in the Labour Commission's report, that all estates not using the Labour Department should be called upon to make a heavy contribution towards subsidizing the department, is extremely unsatisfactory.

As one of the members who do not require the Labour Department, it does not appeal to me as a business proposition to contribute 8 annas per acre, in the case of coffee, for the upkeep of a department, which gives me no return. When Messrs. Vincent and Murphy put forward their proposal to make the Labour Department self supporting by charging estates for the services rendered on a tariff basis, the Executive Committee and some District Associations, with certain amendments, agreed with the proposals, subsequently, the Labour Commission on in their report, recommended that all estates should contribute on an acreage basis. Altho' no reason was given it was stated that Messrs. Vincent and Murphy's proposal was unworkable. The only reason I have heard advanced was that on a tariff basis, the income could not be estimated with sufficient certainty to budget for the upkeep of the Department for the coming year, assuming that the statistics on which Messrs. Vincent and Murphy based their proposal were correct, this does not appear to be a sufficient reason for turning it down.

If members using the Labour Department are unwilling to contribute the whole cost of its upkeep on acreage basis, it is suggested that it would be possible, during the second half of the current financial year, to apply the tariff basis of charges for services rendered by the Labour Department, the whole income as allotted in the budget for the year to be available for the Department, estates whose liabilities on a tariff basis, exceeded the proportion of their subscription allotted to the Labour Department, for the half year, to be charged with the excess. This would enable the Labour Department on the actual income received during the second half of the current financial year, to budget for their requirements for 1923-24. Members using the Labour Department would then be in a position to decide whether future contributions would be on an acreage or a tariff basis, possibly a modification of both would meet the case.

The unfairness of compelling estates which receive no benefit from the Labour Department, to continue to contribute to its upkeep is obvious. Unless some scheme is devised to release them from this heavy burden, it is certain that the U. P. A. S. I., when the five years' agreement expires, will be faced with a reduction of acreage, with a corresponding reduction of strength, financial and otherwise.

Your's faithfully,  
G. W. HOLLINGS.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

(INCORPORATED.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Twenty-ninth ordinary General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Association will be held at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore, on Monday the 21st day of August 1922, commencing at 2-30 o'clock of the afternoon and continuing on the following days, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Executive Committee, Accounts and Balance Sheet, electing a Chairman and Auditors for the ensuing year, and special business as set forth in the statement of Agenda printed hereunder.

By order of the Executive Committee,

COIMBATORE, }  
15th July, 1922. }

(Signed) H. WADDINGTON,  
Secretary.

### THE AGENDA.

#### Ordinary Business

1. The Chairman's Address.
2. Report of the Executive Committee.
3. Accounts—1st April 1921 to 31st March 1922.
4. Election of Chairman and Auditors.

#### THE U. P. A. S. I.

#### Special Business

5. Incorporation of District Associations.
6. Inter-District Sports.
7. Planters' Chronicle.
8. Report of the Enquiry Commission and re-organization of the U. P. A. S. I.
9. South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund.
10. Upasi Buying Agency.
11. U. P. A. S. I. Rules.
12. AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

#### LEGISLATION.

13. The Planting Member.
14. The Reformed Councils and Politics.
15. Factory Act.
16. Labour Laws.
17. Malabar Tenants Improvement Act.
18. Income-tax Act.
19. DUTIES AND TAXES.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

20. Harbours.
21. Railways.
22. Roads.
23. Shipping.

#### LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

24. The Director's Report.
25. International Labour Conference.
26. Labour Rules.
27. The Labour Department.

#### GENERAL

28. Labour rates of pay.
29. Medical.
30. Statistics.
31. Manures.
32. TEA.
33. RUBBER.
34. COFFEE.



## SCIENTIFIC.

35. Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.
36. Report of the Rubber Mycologist.
37. General Mycologist.
38. BUDGET AND FINANCE.

The **Mundakayam Planters' Association** will move the following Resolution under Item 8 of the above Agenda:—

In view of the findings of the recent Labour Commission, the dissatisfaction evinced with the present constitution of the U. P. A. S. I., the desirability of more efficient and economic administration of the Parent Association and the necessity of definitely arranging for the political representation of the Planting industries on the Legislative Council, the Mundakayam Planters' Association propose the following resolutions:—

1. That from 1st April 1923 Membership of the U. P. A. S. I. be one of Firms and Estates not of District Associations and be confined to subscribers to a District Association.
2. That the U. P. A. S. I., be registered in Mysore, Travancore, Cochin and Coorg respectively.
3. That the method of election of the General Committee and Executive Committee remain as at present.
4. That from the 1st April 1923 separate subscriptions be levied for General Expenditure, Reserve Fund, Labour Department, Scientific Department, and Rubber Mycological Department respectively.
5. That from 1st April 1923 the subscription for General Expenditure be limited to three annas per acre that half an anna per acre be the subscription for Reserve Fund, and that the consent of 75 per cent of the Members voting as in other matters on an acreage basis, shall be required before the Reserve Fund may be drawn against.
6. That 6 annas per acre Tea, 5 annas per acre Coffee, and 2 annas per acre Rubber and other products be payable from 1st April 1923 by all subscribing estates to the Labour Department and that for this payment all estates be entitled to have their Kanghanies or Maistries registered and their Labour protected.
7. That from 1st April 1923 monies required by the Labour Department in addition to the compulsory cess of 6 annas per acre Tea, 5 annas per acre Coffee, and 2 annas per acre Rubber and other products be subscribed by Estates desirous of using the Labour Department for anything further than the registration of Kanghanies or Maistries and protection of Labour and that the rates of subscription necessary be decided on by the Estates interested.

8. That the Labour Department be administered by a Working Committee under the direction of the Executive Committee.

9. That from 1st April 1923 no office in the Labour Department be held by the U. P. A. S. I. Secretary or his staff.

10. That all members be bound by U. P. A. S. I. Labour Rules to be passed at a General Meeting of the Association.

11. The Scientific Department expenditure be paid for by Tea, Coffee and Minor products, but not by Rubber.

12. That the Rubber Mycological Department be controlled by a Committee under the guidance of the Executive Committee and be paid for by Rubber acreage only.

13. That 12 months notice be required from Members desirous of resigning from the U. P. A. S. I.

14. That the Offices of the U. P. A. S. I. be moved to Madras with a whole time Secretary and that the Planting Membership be coupled with the work of the Secretary.

15. That the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund be registered as an Incorporated Society.

### LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

#### SRIVILLIPUTHUR DIVISION, NORTH, REPORT FOR JUNE.

UTTAMAPALAYAM. 4-7-1922. Light rains consequent on the S. W. monsoon have prevailed here for the last fortnight. The Periyar sluices were opened on the 13th June so that there is plenty of water available for agricultural work. The sowing of paddy in wet lands was commenced about the end of June. Ploughing is in progress and the sowing of Ragi and Chillies. The Cholan harvest is over. Rice is the main crop with Cholan and Ragi next.

The rates of various works are as follows:—

Ploughing including the yoke of bulls Re. 1/- per day. Without bulls i. e., when the man only is engaged As. 8 per day of 7 hours—9 A. M. to noon and 1 P. M. to 5 P. M. approximately.

Sowing is more of a professional job and is more highly paid. As. 12 per day is the figure when a hired man is employed.

Irrigation from wells with and including yoke of bulls Re. 1-12-0 per day of 6 hours approximately. Irrigation by man power 8 to 10 annas for the same period. Women are paid 4 to 5 annas and are employed in planting seedlings and weeding.

Foot and mouth disease amongst the cattle is very prevalent in the valley, but there is no sickness amongst the population.

The price of rice is 2 7/8 measures per rupee.



**BODI.** Weather conditions here are similar to those in Uttamapalayam. Ploughing is in progress and the planting of Cholan which is largely grown. There is only one rice crop per year.

Wages for ploughing are man and bulls Re. 1-4-0 to Re. 1-8-0  
Man only As. 8 for 7 to 8 hour's work.

Sowing rates are 8 to 10 annas per day when a man is engaged for the work. Women are paid 4 to 5 annas for weeding and transplanting.

There is no sickness amongst the population and no cattle disease.

The price of grains is

White Cholan Rs. 8/4/- for 48 measures.

Black               Rs. 7/- to Rs. 7/8/- for 48 measures

Ragi Rs. 8/4/- for 48 measures.

Rice 3 measures per rupee.

The recruiting season is over in this Division.

**USILAMPATTI.** A good deal of rain has fallen recently and ploughing is in progress. The first Chollam harvest is over and the sowing of the second crop has started, also the planting of Ragi. Cotton is the main crop in the vicinity and is being harvested at present.

Wages for ploughing including bulls Re. 1/- from 8-12 and from 2-5 i. e., 7 hours' work.

Well irrigation including bulls all day from 6. A. M. to 6 P. M. without midday interval Rs. 2 per day. Men only As. 8/-. This is for the actual balers. Men who distribute the water and look after the channels get As. 6. Cotton picking rates are according to amount picked.

The recruiting season is from January till April. After that recruiting slackens off.

Small pox is prevalent. Tanks are dry but there is sufficient water in the wells.

The grains are expensive generally.

Cholan 6 measures per rupee.

Ragi           do           do

Rice    3   do           do

The average wage for men throughout is As. 7-8 per day.

**ANDIPATTI.** Ploughing is in progress and the sowing of Cholan, Ragi and Chillies. Cholan is the main crop, nearly all the land being dry.

The rates for the various works are

Ploughing man and bulls Re. 1/- per day.

do   man only As. 6/- per day of 7 hours approximately.

Sowing As. 6/- per day.

Mamotee work, general earth cutting As. 8/- per day.

Well digging Re. 1/- per day.

Mud wall building 1 cubit in height, by 5 cubits in length, by  $\frac{3}{4}$  cubit in thickness costs As. 4/-. A man can earn Re. 1/- per day at this.

The price of grains is

White Cholam Rs. 8/- for 48 measures.

Black „ Rs. 6/8- do

Ragi Rs. 8/- do

Rice Re. 1/- for 3 measures.

There is a certain amount of small pox prevalent and enough water is available for general purposes. Tanks are dry.

Srivilliputhur, }  
10th July 1922. }

A. H. MACKIE,  
Superintendent.

### NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF A QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, OOTACAMUND, ON THE 7TH OF JULY, 1922, AT 11. A. M.

*Present.* Mr. A. S. Dandison. (Chairman); Messrs A. K. Weld Downing; E. Sydenham Clarke; Major J. B. Leslie Rogers; Capt E. G. Windle; Messrs P. Reed; W. A. Cherry; L. F. Lake; W. C. Deane; J. P. Waldeck; N. J. Stanes; J. Beaver Vernede; Capt C. St. John Ives; Messrs O. W. Marden; C. Hercus; G.W. Hollings; and F. H. Farmer (Hon. Secretary)  
*Visitor.* Mr. A N. Hearn.

Before proceeding with the business of the day, the Chairman addressed the Meeting as follows:

“Gentlemen, After Notices calling the Meeting had been sent out, the matter of District Board Membership was brought forward. Owing to its importance, all Members were notified that the consent of the Meeting would be asked to add this item to the Agenda. I therefore ask your permission for this matter to be discussed today.”

All Members notified their consent.

1. Notice calling the Meeting was taken as read.
2. Proceedings of the previous Meeting were then taken as read, and confirmed.
3. INCORPORATION. The Chairman said that all papers had been completed and sent down to the U. P. A. S. I. We were now only waiting for Government's consent. There was one point how-



ever that he would like to bring forward. This was that the first Office bearers should consist chiefly of those who signed the Incorporation papers. Since this MR. L. F. Lake had resigned from the Committee.

As the Committee was not complete, it was proposed that Mr. Lake should fill the remaining vacancy. Mr. Lake saying that he was agreeable, this was carried unanimously.

4. U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR COMMISSION REPORT. As this would be included in item 6. b, it was decided to leave this over for the time.

5. DISTRICT RATES OF PAY. The Chairman said details of rates had been sent in by most Members, but with present competition, he did not see how this would materially assist the establishment of uniform District Rates. He considered it was a case of putting the Cart before the Horse attempting this before tackling the Labour Supply question.

The average rates of Pay, allowances etc, were then read. Capt Windle said he was quite certain that Estates could not and would not be bound to uniform District Rates. This was the general opinion, but it was decided to request the Hon. Secretary to circulate the tabulated list for information of Members.

6. U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting.

(a) *Resolutions to be placed on the Agenda.* There was no Member wishing to bring forward any special resolution, and the Hon. Secretary stated that he had received no intimation from absent Members.

(b) *Instructions to Delegates.* Draft Agenda was taken item by item, and Delegates instructed as to the wishes of Members. The Labour Commission's Report was fully discussed, and the opinion of the Meeting was that its recommendations be accepted.

In the event of the Association receiving advice of any items or resolutions not covered by present instructions, it was decided to call a Committee Meeting in Coonoor.

7. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS. The Chairman said he had pleasure in proposing the Little Ireland Estates, Ltd., and Warwick Estate for Membership. *Carried unanimously.*

8. FACTORY ACT. The Chairman said the Association had been asked to send a representative to discuss this in Coimbatore, on the 28th ult. As time was short he decided to take immediate action and asked Major Porter and Mr. Harper to represent the Association. Mr. Harper kindly consented, and notice to this effect was sent round to all members of Committee. A short report of the conference having been given, the Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Harper, and asked the Association to vote his expences.

9. *Miscellaneous correspondence.* (a) A letter from the Post Master General was read which asked for the opinion of the Association on a Heavy Parcel Post Service between India and the United Kingdom. The Chairman's reply, based on the views of the Committee, approving of such Service, was read and endorsed.

(b) *Badega Labour.* Details of Badega Labour Connections in the Anamallais which had been forwarded to the Association was then read. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write asking how long these connections had been in force.

(c) Notice R. C. No. 336/22 was received by the Association from the Nilgiri District Board, state that the Mysore Road is closed to traffic at the 23rd mile until further notice, as the wooden bridge at that mile is in a dangerous condition.

(d) Letter from Mrs. Kinloch was read.

10. *DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERSHIP.* The proportional Membership of the N. P. A. and N. W. P. A. was discussed, and it was agreed to accept the proportion of 5 and 4. Also as actual names of those elected would probably have to be given before the next meeting, a ballot took place and the following were elected.

Kotagiri.	Mr. E. Sydenham Clarke.
Coonoor.	Capt. E. G. Windle.
Katary.	Mr. A. K. W. Downing.
Kullakamby.	Mr. A. S. Dandison.
Kundahs.	Mr. O. W. Marden.

11. *Papers on the Table.* The Rubber Growers Association. Thirteenth Report of the Council.

The Bulletin of the Rubber Growers Association, May, and The Agricultural Journal.

12. With a Vote of thanks to the Collector for the use of the room, and to the Chair, the Meeting terminated.

A. S. DANDISON,	F. H. FARMER,
Chairman.	Hon. Secretary.



## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 20TH JUNE 1922:

INDIAN HOMEWARD BILL OF LADING.—The London Association had received a letter from the British Federation of Traders enclosing a copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Federation held on 21st April, at which it was unanimously resolved to circulate Executive Councils or Committees of Associations of trading bodies with a resolution in the above connection to be acted on as each thought fit. The resolution was that in all contracts in future the following clause should be inserted:—"No Charter Party Bill of Lading or other "shipping document which incorporates the Hague Rules 1921 or "contains any reference thereto (otherwise than by way of exclusion) "will be a good tender under this contract." In reply to this the London Association had said that as the Indian Tea Association, London and Calcutta, had entered into a new agreement with the Calcutta Conference and tea shippers, one of the terms of which agreement was that all teas shipped from Calcutta under the agreement should be carried under and subject to the terms and conditions of the ordinary bill of lading now in use by the different steamer lines for the eastern trade, with the usual tea clauses and modifications incorporated therein as from time to time agreed on between the parties thereto, no new clauses or modifications of existing clauses could be made without agreement by both parties, so that the action recommended in the minutes of the Federation meeting was not necessary so far as the Indian Tea Association was concerned.

REVISED DUTY ON TEA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.—A reference dated 7th June had been received from the Tea Traders Association suggesting that this Association might see their way to refer to London the question of a reduction being made in the rate of duty charged on consignments of tea forwarded duty paid by parcel post. The duty in this case was charged at the rate of 10*d.* per lb. while in the case of tea forwarded by cargo boat the tax was only 6½*d.* per lb. The Committee decided to address the Presidency Postmaster on the subject.

## FACTORY INSPECTORS.

The Government are pleased to direct that the local limits within which the Inspectors of factories appointed under section 4 (1) of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, except the Chief Inspector of Factories shall exercise their powers, will be as follows:—

*Name of Circle.*

*Districts comprised.*

Northern Circle.

Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari, Krishna and Guntur.

Central Circle. Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, South Arcot & Tanjore.

Southern Circle. Tinnevely, Ramnad, Madura, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, The Nilgiris, Malabar, & South Kanara

The Chief Inspeor of Factories will continue to exercise jurisdiction over the whole of the Madras Presidency and will be in direct charge of Madras City cum Chingleput and Nellore districts. (*Publicity Bureau.*

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT. U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 24. (10-16 July).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at head-quarters throughout the week under report.

2. POTASSIC FERTILISERS. A new source of Potash is likely to come forward as Leucit, or Companit as it is now called, a mineral found in the lava districts of Italy. This is chemically a potassium silicate of aluminium, but possesses the special feature that a considerable portion of the Potash is soluble in acid. Experiments conducted with it at Woburn Experiment Station seem to indicate that there is a value attaching to it which does not apply to the more insoluble forms of Potash, and that it is hardly inferior to Sulphate of Potash containing the same amount of Potash. The results of pot experiments with this fertiliser at Woburn were as follows, the plant used being Wheat.

	Weight of corn	Weight of straw	Percentage of untreated.	
	grs.	grs.	Corn.	Straw.
1. Untreated.	8.19	16.70	100	100
2. Leucit. 5 cwts. per acre.	11.23	19.99	137	119
3. Sulphate of Potash containing Potash equivalent to 5 cwts. per acre of Leucit.	11.00	18.55	134	111

3. THE VALUE OF LIME. We cannot resist quoting the Consulting Chemist when he says that his experience in analysis of soils has shown him that, taking the country generally, nothing is so much required as liming for the improvement of the soil. This has been



our constant experience in this country, and where our advice has been taken of systematic and continuous limiting, we almost invariably hear of good results being obtained.

#### 4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (2-9 July).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, rain fell on each day of the week, a total of 3.69 inches being recorded, 2.69 of which fell on the last two days. Fresh stakes of *Erythrina lithosperma* have been planted. The hybrid plants have been topped at 2½ feet. Plots 2, 4, 5 and 7 have been hand weeded, Spanish Needle, being the chief weed.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, monsoon conditions with high winds prevailed, and 18.94 inches of rain were recorded. This heavy rain and wind has greatly reduced the flush and only 333 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 5½ acres. Selective weeding has been done in some of the green dressing plots. The drains have had their first clearing and the silt pits in them have been emptied and the material spread out over the terraces on the upper side of the drains.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, there was rain on six days of the week, a total of 14.11 inches being gauged of which 6.88 inches were received on the last day of the week. The heavy rain interfered with tapping and lowered the yield. 51 lbs. of wet sheet and 8.87 lbs. of wet scrap were obtained.

System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 12. One-third daily.	0.15
Plot 13 One-third daily.	0.16
Plot 14 One-third alternate days.	0.21
Plot 14 a Half alternate days	0.30
Plot 15 One-third daily.	0.16
Plots 17 to 19. One-third daily.	0.12

Plot 16 is being rested during the monsoon months of July and August and will not be tapped again till September.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tēnmalai*, there was rain each day in the week, a total of 7.19 inches being recorded, of which 3.93 inches fell on the last day, the same day as the big rain at Mooply. 65.88 lbs. of wet sheet and 6.48 lbs. of wet scrap were harvested. Abnormal leaf-fall is gradually spreading and some trees are showing signs of patch canker.

System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 14. One-third daily.	0.49
Plot 20 One-third daily.	0.47
Plot 17 One-third alternate days.	0.60
Plots 15 and 18. Half alternate days.	0.68
Plot 24 a. One-third daily in morning	0.48
Plot 24 b. One-third daily in evening	0.44
Plot 24 c. One-third daily in evening only	0.44

Plots 16 and 19 are being rested during July and August and will not be tapped again till September.

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD.

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, PLANTING DISTRICTS, FOR JUNE 1922.

Accompanied by the Government Entomologist, I inspected the Tea Experiment Station and paid a visit to estates in connection with *Helopeltis* and green manuring. On one particular estate an honest attempt was being made to get the tea under a cover crop of *Oxalis* and *Tephrosia*. Many attempts had been made in the past to clean weed this estate and all had failed, and at last it has been decided to call in the aid of a cover crop. It is worthy of note that the Manager treats his coolies with *Esenophile* for Malaria. The estate is situated in the fever zone, but directly the malaria appears the coolies are given this remedy and it has proved not successful.

On a South Travancore Group of tea Estates *Helopeltis* is very bad. Some experiments are being carried out here to test the efficiency of drainage and of frequent applications of potash with and without lime against this pest.

I then inspected the rubber experiment Station, Tenmalai and visited some Estates. On one of the latter, a rubber clearing was attacked last year by *Phytophthora* in a similar way to clearings in Mundakayam. This year, an attempt has been made to spray the young plants with Bordeaux Mixture as a protective measure, but a very inefficient spraying machines had been used, one a small hand squirt and the other of a most antiquated pattern. Probably, more money was wasted over the difficult and slow process of spraying with such types of machines than would have sufficed to buy a modern pressure sprayer.

*The Coffee Experiment Station.* The coffee has responded to the rain, especially the supplies and the hybrid plots, while the collar pruned area is beginning to put out suckers. The pandal has been removed from the nursery and the young plants are making a vigorous growth, and are free from disease. This is probably due to the use of lime and sulphur in the soil as a preventative measure against the mealy bug scale on the roots. Marigogipe seed originally sown failed, but the second sowing is now germinating. In the green manure plots, *Crotalaria semper florens*, introduced from the high Range, is making remarkably good growth and has reached a height of 6 to 7 feet, and is much branched. *Cassia hirsuta* has germinated well and is making good growth and the self-sown plot has also



made a good cover, but needs a hand weeding. It was thought that the *Desmodium Rufescens* had failed, but with the advent of the rain the seed is germinating and a cover may yet be obtained. The resown *Tephrosia Candida* is also coming up well. The whole station has been handled and suckered and bored plants have been removed and burned. 216 trees have had to be removed, or about 16 trees per acre. Some of the neighbouring estates have had to remove as many as 40 to 80 trees per acre, due to the attack of borer. A round of handweeding was completed and the temporary shade of *Arythrina lithosperna* was lopped up. Roads and drains have been repaired and cleaned, and the Station is now prepared to face the monsoon.

**The tea Experiment Station.** At the close of the month monsoon conditions had set in. The rain was very welcome after the long drought. Only 5.68 inches of rain fell between 20th November 1921 and 30th April 1922, and most of this was in single showers followed by long rainless periods, so that it did little good. The tea in places where the soil is shallow suffered severely in consequence. The effect of the drought was reflected in the yield of tea, and May instead of being, as usual, a good month, was a very poor one this year. Both tea and yields have responded to the rain, but the heavy rain at the close of the month has caused the flush to shut up again. The green dressing crops of *Orotalaria semperflorens* and *Tephrosia candida*, which we are trying to establish, have made a fair start now though much delayed in the earlier drought, and they are standing up to the rain fairly well. Cuttings of *Indigofera endecaphylla* have been planted in plot 4. Supplies from the farm nursery were put out in plots 13 to 24. Dadap has been planted 20 x 20 in plot 20 to give shade and mulch.

**The Rubber Experiment Station. Mooply.** With the increase of the rian abnormal leaf-fall is spreading. Black line canker made its appearance in the cuts, despite the application of 2 per cent Izal solution. This was feared and is partly due to the late start with the tapping. The strength of the Izal has been increased to 5 per cent. The selection plots have been thinned to one plant to each pit, those removed being used as supplies. Green dressing crops have made a good and satisfactory cover.

**The Rubber Experiment Station. Tenmalai.** Abnormal leaf-fall due to the attack of *Phytophthora Meadii* made its first appearance on 24th. This is earlier than last year due to the early rain. There is a poor seed crop this year. Black line canker has also made its appearance and a 3 per cent solution of carbolinium is being used as a protective. Late sown green dressings are making slow progress, but the early sown *Tephrosia* is ready for its first lopping. A certain amount of this has had the leaves attacked by the fungi, which caused Brown Blight and Grey Blight of Tea, are the infection, probably, comes from the neighbouring tea estates. The damage is, however, small.

### COFFEE IN INDIA 1920-21.

The number of plantations in the year under review was 2942 covering an area of 223,524 acres, as against 2,468 with an area of 230,848 acres (revised figures) reported a year ago. New land planted with coffee during the year amounted to 12,141 acres, while the area of old cultivation abandoned was 3,880 acres. This represents a net increase of 8,261 acres over the revised total area (116,411 acres) under coffee for 1919-20. The total area under cultivation in the year under report was, therefore, 124,672 acres, or an increase of 7 per cent over that of the preceeding year. Of the total area under coffee during 1920-21, 50 per cent was in Mysore, 26 per cent in Coorg, 21 per cent in Madras, and the remaining 3 per cent in Cochin and Travancore.

The total production of cured coffee during the year was 22,486,696 lbs. as compared with 21,325,035 lbs. (revised figure) in the preceding year-the yield per acre of plucked area being 246 lbs. (185 lbs) in Travancore, 235 lbs (217) in Coorg, 210 lbs (206 lbs) in Madras, 189 lbs (178 lbs) in Mysore and 132 lbs (107 lbs) in Cochin, the figures for 1919-20 being shown in brackets. The daily average number of persons employed in the plantations during 1920-21 was returned at 74,945, of whom 50,334, were permanently employed (namely, garden labour 32,598; and outside labour 17,736) and 24,611 temporarily employed (outside labour), as compared with 60,868 persons (28,030 garden and 10,417 outside labour permanently employed and 22,421 temporary outside Labour) in 1919-20.

Coffe is imported chiefly from the Straits Settlements and the Kenya Colony (formerly known as the East African Protectorate) and re-exported to Asiatic Turkey and Maskat Territory.

Exports of Indian coffee increased in 1921-22, as compared with preceding year, by 1,600 cwts to 235,000 cwts. The principal customers of Indian coffee are France and the United Kingdom, the former increased her demands by 94 per cent to 80,900 cwts while the latter reduced her requirements by 14,000 cwts to 85,300 cwts. With the exception of Australia including New Zeland, which took 1,500 cwts more than in the preceding years, the exports to all other countries decreased. Exports to Asiatic Turkey declined by 28,500 cwts and amounted to 5,500 cwts. Arabia, Bahrein Islands and Ceylon also reduced their takings considerably.

*(Publicity Bureau.)*



## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.		Ceylon.		U. K.		Europe other than U. K.		Other places in Asia.		Africa.		America.		Australia.	
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras.	...	...	110	97,535	600	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calicut.	1,750	...	...	96,585	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	4,200	...	...	263,744	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mangalore.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry.	...	...	...	10,029	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	...	263,724	781,199	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey & Minor Ports.	...	...	1,150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals this month.	5,950	264,984	1,249,112	600	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Previously from 1-4-22 to 31-5-22.	41,319	375,457	3,830,194	4,580	500	13,535	760,809	203	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total 1-4-22 to 30-6-1922.	47,269	640,441	5,079,306	5,180	600	13,535	760,809	203	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

GRAND TOTAL EXPORTS...6,547,343 lbs.

## RE-ORGANISATION OF U. P. A. S. I.

### PROPOSALS BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 29th June, the Report of the special Enquiry Commission, and their recommendations, as to re-organisation of the U. P. A. S. I. were considered, and the following proposals were framed as a basis for discussion at the Annual General Meeting. The proposals are based on the absolute necessity of providing sufficient funds for working both the U. P. A. S. I. and its Departments efficiently, combined with the necessity of dealing with the financial depression in the Rubber Industry. Further, the expansion of both the Labour and Scientific Departments would be adequately provided for.

The proposals are that there be a subscription of Re. 1/- per acre, for all Products, as Membership subscription of the U. P. A. S. I., to cover the expenses of general activities, which are common to all members, as regards both the U. P. A. S. I. and its Departments.

There would be two Departments, support of which will be voluntary:—

(1) *The Labour Department*, for which the additional subscription shall be, for Tea Rs. 1-4-0 per acre; Coffee, Rubber and Minor Products Annas 8 per acre; payable by all those who make use of the Department for individual requirements.

(2) *The Special Rubber Mycologist Department*, the subscription to which shall be Annas 2 per acre.

These suggested subscriptions are based on the assumption that all present Tea and Coffee Members will continue to support the Labour Department, and that Rubber Members will support the Rubber Mycologist. If any appreciable acreage fails to support the voluntary Departments, the subscription of the remaining members will have to be increased proportionately. It is recognised that a great deal of the present dissatisfaction with the Labour Department is due to insufficient funds, and that it is necessary for the Department to have its own whole time Director.

The control of the U. P. A. S. I. and all its Departments will remain with the Executive Committee as at present.

With the exception of the two Departments, membership of which is *voluntary*, the rules as to retirement from the Association to remain as at present, so that, although members will retain membership of the U. P. A. S. I. till 31st March 1924, the question of supporting the two Departments will be optional from the date that re-organisation and revised subscriptions come into force. Subsequent to that, any member wishing to resign from the U. P. A. S. I., or any of its Departments, must give one year's notice as laid down in Article No. 8 of the Articles of Association.

(Signed) H. L. PINCHES

(Chairman)

J. A. RICHARDSON, M. L. C., (Planting Member)

J. HATTON ROBINSON

W. L. CRAWFORD

A. C. MORRELL

(Members)



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

#### REPORT ON SRIVILLIPUTHUR DIVISION, NORTH.

WATRAP. 13—7—1922. The harvesting of the summer rice crop will be finished this month. Ragi is being sown and other minor crops. Coolies will not leave for estates from this vicinity until after Adi Amavasai (about the beginning of August).

Rates of pay for various works are:—Earth cutting (mamotee work) 8-12 annas according to the strenuousness of the work. Harvesting is paid in kind, to the extent of 4 measures of paddy per day, approximately. Irrigation from wells including hire of bulls, per day of 6-7 hours Re. 1—8—0. Irrigation by man power As. 8/- per day of the same duration. The average man's pay is As. 8/- per day. Women earn 4-6 annas at planting, weeding, grass cutting and firewood transport.

Small pox is prevalent. Tanks are more or less dry. Wells contain sufficient water for garden cultivation.

The price of Cholan is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  measures per rupee.

Do	Ragi	5	do
Do	Rice	3	do

MADURA. 14—7—1922. Ploughing and sowing for the paddy crop is now in progress to the North of Madura in the Periyar irrigated area. In the South, East and West, Cholam, Ragi, Cotton and Tobacco are the main crops. The cotton harvest is practically finished.

Rates of pay for various works are:— Ploughing including bulls per day of 6–7 hours Rs. 2/-. Men's pay 8–12 annas. The higher rate is paid in the Periyar irrigated area, owing, it is alleged, to the landlords and employers being wealthier here than in other parts. Irrigation from wells by man power 8–12 annas. Women are paid 4 annas per day for weeding and planting, normally, in the Periyar area. As. 6/- is the maximum.

Water is scarce throughout the non-irrigated areas.

Grains are comparatively dear.

Cholam 5 measures per rupee.

Ragi 4-4½ do

Rice 3¼ do

Labour will be more or less available in this division for another month. After that agricultural work will absorb it for a time.

PERAIYUR. 15—7—1922. The second picking of the cotton crop will be finished here by the end of the month. Ploughing is nearly completed and rain is awaited for the sowing of Cholam, etc.

Ploughing rate is, including bulls, Re. 1—8—0 per day of 6–7 hours, exclusive of the bulls 6–8 annas per man. Irrigation from wells including bulls Re. 1—8—0, man power 8 annas per day. Earth cutting (mamotee work) 8–12 annas. Well sinking is done on the "kanak" principle. Mud wall building 8 cubits in length by 1 cubit high by ¾ cubit broad costs As. 4/-. Women earn 4–6 annas per day.

The price of Cholam is 5½ measures per rupee

Do Ragi 5-5½ do

Do Rice 2¾ do

USILAMPATTI. 15—7—1922. Cotton is grown extensively in gardens in this vicinity, irrigated from wells. The crop is now being picked. Ploughing is finished and there is practically no work going on, nor will this alter till rain comes. Men earn As. 6/- per day and very often as little as As. 4/- in consequence. It might be assumed that labour would now be available for Estates but this is not so. This is greatly owing to the fact that a festival (Mahasivaratri) important to all Kallars falls in January and February at Pappapatti. Coolies going to Estates now would have to remain there for 9 months and miss the festival, so they prefer to remain in the plains. March, April and May are the best recruiting months, though strangely enough there is generally plenty of work in the plains then in this particular division at any rate.



There is practically no sickness.

TIRUMANGALAM. 16—7—1922. Ploughing is nearly finished and rain is awaited. In parts the planting of Chokam and Ragi is in progress and fields are being manured. Cotton and groundnuts are the main crops.

Small pox is mildly prevalent in places.

The price of Cholam is  $4\frac{3}{4}$  measures per rupee.

Do	Ragi	5	do
----	------	---	----

Do	Rice	3	do
----	------	---	----

Srivilliputhur, }  
18th July 1222. }

A. H. MACKIE,  
Superintendent.

### MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF A QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MUNDAKAYAM CLUB ON THE 8TH. AND 9TH JULY 1922.

*Present.* Messrs. F. G. Millar (Chairman); C. L. Mclean; J. J. Murphy; W. M. Stanton; M. F. Shore; H. B. Mc. Pherson; J. R. Vincent; R. P. Stott; I. N. James; W. Lyndon; H. R. Carson Parker; H. Ashplant; R. Harley (by proxy) and O. J. Egan-Wyer (Hon. Secretary).

Notice calling the Meeting was read. Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on March 25th. and the Committee Meeting of May 27th. were read and confirmed.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW HONORARY SECRETARY. Proposed from the Chair that Mr. O. J. Egan-Wyer's appointment as Honorary Secretary be confirmed and that he be authorised to sign Cheques and operate in every way on the Bank Account of this Association.

*Carried.*

STANDARDISATION OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES. U. P. A. S. I. Circular No. 225 of 10th April was read and the opinion of the Association is that until such time as Advances can also be Standardised, any attempt to Standardise Wages and Allowances is not likely to prove effective.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES NOS. 10-14. U. P. A. S. I. Circular No. RID/6 of 28th April was read. Proposed by Mr. Vincent and seconded by Mr. Murphy "That as the period for which the Inter-District Labour Rules were accepted by us has passed and in view of the fact that during this period the Rules have not been observed, this Association does not see its way to continue to subscribe to them." *Carried.*

REORGANISATION OF THE U. P. A. S. I. Resolved that in view of the findings of the recent Labour Commission, the dissatisfaction evinced with the present constitution of the U. P. A. S. I. *The Desirability* of more efficient and economic administration of the Parent Association and the necessity of definitely arranging for the Political representation of the Planting Industries on the Legislative Council, notice be given to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. that *the following resolutions* will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting U. P. A. S. I. by the Mundakayam P. A. Delegate:—

1. That from 1st April 1923 Membership of the U. P. A. S. I. be one of Firms and Estates not of District Associations and be confined to Subscribers to a District Association.

2. That the U. P. A. S. I. be registered in Mysore, Travancore, Cochin & Coorg respectively.

3. That the method of election of the General Committee and Executive Committee remain as at present.

4. That from 1st April 1923 separate Subscriptions be levied for General Expenditure, Reserve Fund, Labour Department, Scientific Department, and Rubber Mycological Department respectively.

5. That from 1st April 1923 the Subscription for General Expenditure be limited to 3 annas per acre, that half an anna per acre be the subscription for Reserve Fund, and that the consent of 75 per cent of the Members, voting as in other matters on an acreage basis, be required before the Reserve Fund may be drawn against.

6. That 6 as. per acre Tea, 5 as. per acre Coffee, and 2 as. per acre Rubber and other products be payable from 1st April 1923 by all subscribing Estates to the Labour Department, and that for this payment all Estates be entitled to have their Kanganies or Mastries registered and their Labour protected.

7. That from 1st April 1923 monies required by the Labour Department in addition to the compulsory cess of 6as. per acre Tea, 5 as. per acre Coffee, and 2 as. per acre Rubber and other products be subscribed by Estates desirous of using the Labour Department for anything further than the registration of Kanganies or Maistries and protection of Labour, and that the rates of subscription necessary be decided on by the Estates interested.

8. That the Labour Department be administered by a working Committee under the direction of the Executive Committee.

9. That from 1st April 1923 no office in the Labour Department be held by the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. or his Staff.

10. That all Members be bound by U. P. A. S. I. Labour rules to be passed at a General Meeting of the Association.



11. That Scientific Department Expenditure be paid for by Tea, Coffee, and Minor Products but not by Rubber.

12. That the Rubber Mycological Department be controlled by a Committee under the guidance of the Executive Committee and be paid for by Rubber acreage only.

13. That Twelve months notice be required from Members desirous of resigning from the U. P. A. S. I.

14. That the Offices of the U. P. A. S. I. be removed to Madras with a whole time Secretary, and that the work of the Planting Membership be coupled with the work of the Secretary.

15. That the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund be registered as an Incorporated Society.

An amendment proposed by Mr. Vincent failed to find a seconder but he asked that it should be recorded as follows :—

"That in view of the fact that the U. P. A. S. I. has not seen its way to offer to Rubber Associations either a rebate on subscriptions or to reduce the amount of subscriptions to the U. P. A. S. I. at this period when Rubber cannot afford to pay the subscriptions demanded this Association forthwith resigns from the U. P. A. S. I."

INCORPORATION. Proposed by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Murphy "That in view of the reconstruction proposals of the Mundakayam Planters' Association, the matter of Incorporation be deferred." *Carried.*

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM TRAVANCORE GOVERNMENT TOWARDS MYCOLOGICAL STATION, Mr. McLean asked for information regarding Financial Assistance from the Travancore Government. The Chairman suggested that the Committee go through the Correspondence and place their views before the Association. This however did not meet with the approval of the Meeting, and Mr. Murphy proposed and Mr. McLean seconded "That the previous vote of thanks accorded to Mr. Vincent at the meeting held on March 25th be confirmed." *Carried.*

APPOINTMENT OF MUNDAKAYAM DELEGATE TO U. P. A. S. I. GENERAL MEETING 21ST AUGUST, 1922. Proposed from the Chair that Mr. Murphy be appointed Delegate." *Carried.*

TOLL GATE AT 32ND MILE. Proposed from the Chair that the Honorary Secretary write to the Dewan of Travancore requesting that in view of our representation at the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly the Toll Gate be removed from the 32nd Mile if possible and placed nearer Kottayam. *Carried.*

REMOVAL OF MAGISTRATES COURT FROM MUNDAKAYAM. Proposed by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. McPherson "That the Honorary Secretary write to the Dewan of Travancore asking him

to reconsider the decision to remove the Magistrate's Court from Muudakayam. *Carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE. Read letter from "Madras Mail" with reference to contributions to the Special Planting Supplement.

Read letter from U. P. A. S. I. dated 18th May re. Liability of Rubber Estates to Income-Tax in Travancore.

Read letter from Mrs. H. B. Kirk.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

O. J. EGAN WYER, Hon. Secretary. F. G. MILLAR, Chairman.

### **BABABUDIN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT KESINVURTHY ON JUNE 25TH 1922.

*Present.* Messrs. G. R. Oliver (Chairman) F. Hugonin, W. P. Scott, R.O. Oliver, E. H. Thompson, W. R. Thomson, A. C. W. Denne, S. J. Wilson, N. Kirwan Hon. Sec.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Kirwan was elected member.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES. These were discussed and agreed to.

STANDARDISATION OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES. The circular on this subject was discussed. The fact that the neighbouring Province of Coorg, which largely recruited our Mysore Labour, was to be put on a different Schedule, allowing higher pay, was stressed by several members.

Proposed by Mr. Hugonin, & Seconded by Mr. Wilson.

"That the S. M. P. A. & N. M. P. A. be approached as to the advisability of getting into closer cooperation with the Coorg P. A. in the future, especially in view of the fact that we four Associations are recruiting Labour in the same area". *Carried.*

Schedule IV was passed.

Proposed by Mr. Denne, seconded by Mr. Kirwan.

"That Cumblies shall not be made a free issue."

This resolution which had been circulated was lost on a show of hands, but on a Poll being taken was declared. *Carried.*



It was further agreed that Estates that had promised free cumbles this year were not debarred by above from carrying out their promise.

SANTAVERI DISPENSARY. Read letter from the D. M. O. re putting up pukka buildings for the above.

Proposed by Mr. Denne, Seconded by Mr. G. R. Oliver.

"That the Association considers the present buildings could be made permanent at a much smaller cost than suggested and are prepared to put forward Estimates and carry out the work themselves, providing half the necessary Funds". *Carried.*

ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTION FOR CURRENT YEAR. Annual Subscription for the current year to be 1 anna per acre.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Oliver for his hospitality was accorded.

N. KIRWAN,  
Hon. Secretary

### CINCHONA BARK

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co. Ltd. have sent us the following report received from Messrs. C. M. & C. Woodhouse, London:—

During the war, and up to June 1920, there was a good demand for Bark & Quinine. The Manufacturers quotation for Quinine Sulphate was raised to 4/1d per oz and the value of the unit for manufacturing Barks was about 2½d per lb. Succirubra Barks being scarce, sold as high as 3/- per lb. for bright stem chips, and up to the date mentioned above, practically every lot offered at auction was sold at full prices.

In 1919 or 1920 the Dutch Quinine Manufactures entered into a contract with the British Quinine Corporation, who on their part made contracts with the Principal wholesale Druggists in the U. K. wherein it was agreed that the Druggists should buy a large quantity of Java Quinine shipped direct monthly to London. The buyers agreeing not to sell below the official quotation, but buyers were to be allowed a special discount of 7 per cent.

Somewhat earlier the British Government practically commandeered the Java Cinchona Bark owned by British Companies and arranged with Messrs. Howards & Sons that they should take it all at whatever the value of the unit was in Amsterdam for manufacturing Barks at the time each shipment arrived. These arrangements worked well for a short time, but owing to adverse exchanges, the demand for Quinine for export fell off to such an extent that the English Druggists found themselves with very large stocks of Quinine on hand which they had paid for at 4/1d per oz. and were unable to sell, and according to their agreement there was a lot more to

come. Under these circumstances they made arrangements with the Dutch Quinine Manufacturers for future contracts to be cancelled.

The Dutch Manufactures have since reduced the first hand price of Quinine to 3/- per oz. but it does not appear to have resulted in any large business.

Since 30th June 1920 the demand for Druggists Barks has almost entirely ceased, whether owing to adverse exchanges or to foreign Governments preventing buyers from purchasing abroad as far possible but the result has been that both in London and Amsterdam sales of Pharmaceutical Barks are restricted to a few bales now and then, at greatly reduced prices. Fine bright succirubra Bark that at the top of the market would have realized about 3s. per lb. can now be bought for about 7 d to 9 d per lb.

Natural Succirubra Barks usually analyse 2 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Crystallised Sulphate Quinine, and so are of little use to Manufacturers. Natural Officinalis Barks however usually analyse  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent Crystallised Sulphate Quinine, therefore are usually bought for manufacturing.

The only Manufacturers of Quinine in U. K. on a large scale are the well known firms Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ilford, but, as mentioned above, they have secured large supplies of Java Bark and are therefore practically out of the market for East India Barks.

In our Catalogue of 20th September 1921 we had a very fine assortment of East India Officinalis, a large proportion analysing from 4 to  $5\frac{3}{4}$  per cent Cryst. Sulph. Quinine, but have hardly been able to sell any Quantity.

Officinalis Bark sometimes is bought by Druggists when the sample is bright, and especially if in thin Quills of Loxa character but there is nothing like the same general demand for it as for bright Succirubra.

We have just heard that a few days ago the Dutch Manufacturers again reduced the Official quotation for Quinine Sulphate to 2/3d per oz.

## CANADIAN TIMBERS.

*(From the Imperial Institute, London.)*

The Imperial Institute Advisory Committee on Timbers is conducting an enquiry into the possibility of extending the use in Great Britain of the timbers produced in the various countries of the Overseas Empire. A number of reports have been furnished to the Governments concerned, some of which have been published from time to time in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute. The current number contains reports on certain timbers from British Columbia, and the Eastern Provinces of Canada. The attention of H. M. Office



of Works was called by the Committee to the value of British Columbia Douglas fir, spruce and hemlock for constructional purposes, and it is now reported that as a result of special strength tests and joinery trials these woods are now included in their official specifications for Government buildings as alternatives to European woods.

The Eastern Canadian timbers dealt with comprise softwoods, such as spruce, red pine and yellow or white pine, and hardwoods, including white birch, rock maple, beech and white elm. The Committee consider that the technical qualities of Eastern Canadian timbers are such as to warrant a far larger use of the woods in this country than obtains at present. In particular spruce and red pine should find a good market, since they form admirable substitutes for Baltic white and red deal respectively. Yellow or white pine is already well known but should also be more extensively used. H. M. Office of Works will permit the use of these Eastern Canadian timbers by contractors for Government buildings if the woods conform to the official standards of quality. It is also understood that the three softwoods mentioned have been accepted by the War Office as alternatives to European softwoods.

June, 1922.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

### REPORT OF

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, PLANTING DISTRICTS,

AND THE GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST,

### MOSQUITO BLIGHT OF TEA.

*"Mosquito Blight is a Symptom and not a disease."*

There is no doubt that the intensity of Mosquito Blight has been on the increase in Southern India during the last ten years, and is still increasing.

Before dealing with methods of control, it is necessary to consider the factors which affect many diseases of plants and animals in general. It is a very usual answer to a question about the healthiness or otherwise of a tropical climate that as long as one keeps 'fit' all is well, but as soon as for any reason, such as unsuitable dieting, one's vitality is lowered then one becomes susceptible to all kinds of ills and recovery is difficult and protracted. Exactly the same conditions apply to plants. The white man in the tropics is out of his natural environment. The cultivated plant is sometimes out of its natural environment, but also frequently an invalid. In the case of Tea, for example, although indigenous to Assam, under estate conditions it is very differently situated from its natural state. Nature grows Tea as a small tree and as an under growth to the forest, a few plants to the acre mixed with competing shrubs.

The estate grows it in pure culture and much malformed, (being cut down to a bush every second or third year), and keeps it denuded of growing shoots. It never allows it to flower or seed if possible. In these circumstances, we are justified in looking on Tea as an

invalid, and should expect it to be subject to disease of all kinds, which indeed it is. This being the case, one must endeavour by attention to diet and sanitation, that is, manuring and cultivation, (*which includes drainage*) to keep it in the maximum of vigour. Directly one of those factors goes wrong, a so called disease such as Mosquito Blight steps in.

The Mosquito Blight then is an indication of unhealthiness and one should, therefore, treat not the insect, but the Tea bush.

Let us now consider what are the factors controlling the vigour of the bush in Southern India.

*First is the climate.* This we cannot control. As an example of this, we might cite the Nilgiris and the High Range, where the Tea is not attacked by Mosquito Blight, though the cultivation conditions are more or less the same.

*Secondly. Malnutrition* largely due to loss of original top-soil and consequent removal of available plant food and soil bacteria. The pernicious system of clean weeding so prevalent on South Indian Estates is largely responsible for this.

In the course of our tour, we saw a very good example of this. A new clearing just being opened had 18 inches of rich black virgin forest soil full of humus and plant food. Quite close by, we saw an area of old China tea planted forty years ago, which had just been dug out and replanted with good jāt. Here the soil was red and gravelly and obviously deficient in organic matter, in fact, the top soil had all been removed and what was left was the upper layer of the sub soil. After forty years of cultivation, it would not have been unreasonable to expect that the soil should have improved in fertility and not deteriorated. It is justifiable to presume that when first the China tea was planted, it was put into land in all ways similar to the new clearing, since in those days, estates were just being opened and only the very pick of the land would be planted.

On another estate, we saw a soil in the last stages of its agricultural existence. The tea bushes were standing on mounds 18 inches above the soil level, their roots exposed and still-like having the appearance of mangroves rather than tea bushes. This tea was attacked by at least three serious diseases, Mosquito Blight, Brown Blight and Nectria, and as a result was to all intents and purposes moribund and has hitherto resisted all organised attempts to resuscitate it.

*Thirdly. Drainage.* This is a factor which is very often overlooked. One may have a field well cultivated, highly manured, suitably shaded, and protected from soil erosion and yet ill drained. This single item might be in itself sufficient largely to negative the beneficial results of the otherwise favourable conditions.

The effect of drainage on a disease like red rust is well known to every tea planter, and it has been found that an improvement in the drainage system often has a beneficial effect on a disease like brown blight, when present by itself, and also the purple might.



Examples could be quoted where an improvement of soil aeration have resulted in the disappearance of such pests as aphids.

In Assam, concentrated work on Mosquito blight has been in progress for many years, more particularly that of Messrs. Carpenter and Andrews, and some of the results of their researches have recently been summarised by them in 'A note on the value of different insect control methods in tea and against "Mosquito Blight" in particular,' published by the Indian Tea Association, a bulletin which we most strongly commend to the notice of all those connected with tea planting.

Briefly, they have found that there is some connection between the proportion of available potash to available phosphoric acid in the soil and the incidence of "Mosquito Blight." Under Assam conditions, whenever the ratio available potash to available phosphoric acid is high immunity results, while soils which produce tea regularly attacked by the Blight show a low ratio. For example, the soils of Hantapara Plateau have a ratio of .0195 and here the Mosquito Blight is very serious. Soils of the red bank type (a clay soil) have a ratio of 1.114, and here many estates have remained free from attack for years although surrounded by blighted gardens. In South India, from the figures in our possession, this condition does not appear altogether to obtain as we find that soils with a ratio as high as 3 are some of the worst for *Helopeltis*. At the same time, Potash has, undoubtedly, something to do with the liability to attack.

Carpenter and Andrews sum up the situation as follows:—

"The problem of the application of the method to large scale treatment, however, has been found to be somewhat complicated, and has necessitated a more intensive study of soil problems, and their relation to plant behaviour, which cannot as yet be considered to have advanced beyond the preliminary stages. At first it was thought that the production of resistance to attack might be possible by the application of potash in some manurial form to the soil, and a slight success obtained in a preliminary experiment gave colour to the idea, which, however, was somewhat discounted when subsequent experiments showed that the same manurial application produced different results on different soils, in a manner which could not be satisfactorily explained. It then became evident that more than one factor is involved, as regards the soil, in connection with the question of production of conditions favourable to the imparting of an increased degree of resistance to attack to the bush, and attention has had to be directed towards an enquiry into soil conditions in general, and more particularly those which appear to influence bushes one way or the other as regards their degree of liability to attack by the tea mosquito, an enquiry which is still proceeding."

This entirely expresses the situation in South India,

By way of throwing some light on the subject, we have laid down some experiments in South India, to ascertain the effect of applying continual small doses of potash under various conditions combined with drainage and lime. In addition, the effect of drainage alone is also under observation.

This scheme of experiments is as follows:—

On one estate, the following series of experiments are being conducted.

- Plot 1.     ...     1000 lbs. of slaked lime per acre, broadcasted and forked in February/March. 2 cwts. Muriate Potash applied in May. 2 cwt. Muriate Potash applied in September/October.
- Plot 2.     ...     No lime, but Muriate Potash applied as in 1.
- Plot 3.     ...     1000 lbs. slaked lime per acre, broadcasted and forked in February/March. 2 to 3 tons per acre, of wood ashes from the factory applied half in May and half in September/October.
- Plot 4.     ...     No lime, but wood ashes applied as in 3.
- Plot 5.     ...     1000 lbs. slaked lime per acre, broadcasted, and forked in February/March. No Potash.
- Plot 6.     ...     No lime and no potash.
- Plot 7.     ...     Small doses of Muriate of Potash at the rate of 2 oz. per bush applied just round the bush 3 or 4 times a year.

In all the above plots, the drains have been deepened and there is a thoroughly good drainage system. The rest of the field in which these experiments are being conducted remains as a check with un-deepened drains.

On another estate in a 25 acre field roughly rectangular in shape, diagonal strips each consisting of 12 rows of tea have been marked off. One of these will get one ounce of Muriate of Potash to every four trees, and the other, half an ounce to every four trees, applied ten times in the year, viz., once each month except the monsoon months of July and August. The diamond shaped portion in the centre of the field where these diagonals intersect will thus get  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. per 4 trees and the four triangular portions round the edges will get no potash and act as controls.

On the Tea Experiment Station, a plot of China Tea gets 4 cwts. of Muriate of Potash per acre, applied each year in one dose and another plot of China hybrid gets  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tons of wood ashes per acre, each year applied in one dose.

In Assam, where similar experiments are being conducted, it has been found in certain cases that results are not immediate and often only begin to show after two or three years. Instances there are beginning to accumulate of cases in which the continued application of potash to the soil is resulting in a gradual diminution of the degree of liability to attack.



In other cases where defective drainage was believed to be one of the principal factors, attention to this matter is resulting in a gradual lessening of the damage done by the pest. This goes to show that there is a far greater hope of success along this line than is obtained by any other methods of control previously tried.

Though the above methods are founded on the soundest logical basis at present available, yet it must not be forgotten that they are largely experimental and it will be some time before they can be translated into estate practice.

In the meanwhile, other methods of a stop-gap nature can be used with a certain amount of effect. These resolve themselves into spraying and catching by hand.

### **ELECTION OF THE PLANTING MEMBER.**

A vacancy having occurred among the Elected Members of the Madras Legislative Council by the acceptance of the resignation of Mr. James Arthur Richardson, His Excellency the Governor calls upon the Madras Planters' Constituency of the Madras Legislative Council to elect in accordance with the Madras Electoral Rules, a duly qualified person for the purpose of filling the said vacancy before the 15th September 1922.

#### **NOTICE.**

#### **MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

#### **Madras Planters' Constituency.**

Number of persons to be elected.....One (1)

All nominations of candidates for the appointment must reach the returning officer (The Secretary of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Coimbatore) before 4 o'clock of the afternoon of the 11th August 1922. Every nomination paper shall either be presented in person to the Returning Officer or sent to him by registered post.

Immediately after four o'clock on the 11th August 1922, the Returning officer will allow every candidate, his election agent his proposer and seconder to examine all nomination papers which have been received.

The Returning Officer will decide all objections which may be made, and make up a list of valid nominations and publish it on the notice boards of his office.

In the event of more than one valid nomination being received, voting papers will be issued and should be returned to the Returning Officer not later than 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 11th September 1922, the date and hours of polling being fixed as from 3 p. m. to 5 p. m. in the afternoon of the 11th September 1922.

Nomination of candidates must be in prescribed form, which can be obtained from any District Collector, the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras or from the Returning Officer of the Constituency,

- (1) Date and hour on which nominations must be presented to the Returning Officer 11th August before 4 p. m.
- (2) Date on which preliminary list of nominations will be published.....11th August 1922.
- (3) Date and hour on which nomination papers will be taken up for scrutiny.....11th August 4 p. m.
- (4) Date on which final list of valid nominations will be published.....11th August 1922.
- (c) Date and hours of Polling.....3 p. m., to 5 p. m. 11th September 1922.

Coimbatore, )  
27th July 1922. )

H. WADDINGTON,  
Returning Officer.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

**Planting Member.** The Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. has asked us to draw the attention of our readers to the Notice in this issue regarding the election of a Planting Member to the Madras Legislative Council.

We are informed that Mr. C. R. T. CONGREVE, late Chairman of the U. P. A. S. I., has consented to be nominated, and it is gratifying to learn that one who has such intimate knowledge of Planting Politics is prepared to stand for election.

**PEPPER SEED.** A Selangor correspondent has asked us to put him in communication with an Estate which can supply him with good Pepper Seed. We shall be pleased to give his name and address to any one interested.

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST.** In Mr. Ballard's Report, which we published in our issue of 15th July, he described a caterpillar which he found eating the Bark of Rubber Trees (*Vide* pages 410 and 411). Mr. Ballard now writes to say that this caterpillar has been identified by the Imperial Entomologist as "*Aethersis circulata*", *Meyr.* A similar insect mentioned by Petch, he states, is probably the closely allied "*Comocritis Pieria*." We are sorry to learn that Mr. Ballard will not be able to be present at the U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting this year, as had been hoped, as news has just reached us that he has gone home on furlough.

**HELOPELLIS THEIVORA.** We have received the interesting report on this pest which was promised us by Messrs. R. D. Anstead and E. Ballard. It is too long to publish in one issue of the *Chronicle*, and so only half of it appears this week. The rest of it will appear in our next week's issue.

**COFFEE REPORT.** The market has again been slow with little demand and prices lower. *The Produce Markets Review* reports the receipt of cable advices to the effect that the growing crop of Costa Rica will be considerably below the average, and this has stimulated the interest in spot parcels.

**RUBBER MARKET.** The excitement caused by the news that Dutch Planters had resolved to ask their Government for assistance in restriction, which we reported on in our notes on the 1st of this



month, was not maintained, as when it was found that New York did not respond to the rise in prices that took place in London, prices dropped almost suddenly as they rose. It is generally believed that some restriction policy will be agreed to, but it is by no means a certainty, and in any case the negotiations must necessarily take a considerable time before a tangible result is attained.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 25. (17-23 July).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at headquarters throughout the week under report.

2. **STORING OF TEPHROSIA SEED.** With reference to the report on insect pests written by the Government Entomologist which appeared in last week's issue of the Chronicle, the following plan for storing seed of *Tephrosia candida* to protect it from damage by weevils may be of interest. The seed should be stored in tin bins or kerosine tins without lids. On the top of the seed is put a layer of fine *dry* sand two or three inches thick. Any insects which may be in the seed when it is put in the tin will come up to the surface to couple. Having once got to the top, they are unable to return and thus cannot get back to the seed again to lay eggs. In the same way, insects cannot get in from the outside to lay eggs in the seed. The seed should be stored as rapidly as possible after shelling and first spread out in a thin layer and dried in the sun and stored while still warm.

This advice, by the way, is taken from the Villagers' Calendar, a useful publication of the Madras Agricultural Department, which costs only one anna. It contains several notes which would be of use to planters on plants about which they often write to us. For example, sending samples of soil for analyses, instructions for reporting insect damage and for forwarding insects for examination, a note on fish manure, how to make Bordeaux Mixture, calf-feeding and rearing, and list of publications issued by the Department.

3. **TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.** The sixth International Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition, under the direction of Mr. H. Grevilla Montgomery, will be held in Brussels in April 1924. His Majesty the King of the Belgians has given the Exhibition his patronage, and the Belgian Government have accorded it official recognition. The Exhibition will take place at the same time as the Fifth Commercial Fair of Brussels, with which it will be associated; and will be located in the hall of the Cinquantenaire. Although the Exhibition will be held simultaneously with the Commercial Fair, it will be located in a separate and distinct hall, and will be an entirely independent British enterprise, under the same management as that held in London in 1921.

4. **THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS.** (10-16 July).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, 3.15 inches of rain were recorded distributed over six days. Advantage of this break was taken to finish the planting of *Erythrina lithosperma* stakes as secondary

shade and to plant *Cassia hirsuta* in the Kent's Arabica plot for a green dressing. Pitting for supplies has been done in  $11\frac{1}{2}$  acres and weeding round supplies has been begun. The *Cassia hirsuta* plot has been given a hand weeding.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, heavy monsoon conditions prevailed, 21.57 inches of rain being received accompanied by high winds. The result was a slow growth and a poor flush and the plucking round has had to be extended to 15 days. 600 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 11.37 acres.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, heavy rain was experienced, 15.11 inches being recorded of which 4.26 inches fell on 9th. This caused the river, as usual, to flood its banks and the lower portion of the Station was under water for a time and tapping greatly interfered with. This periodical flooding is harmful to the green dressing crop and *Tephrosia* appears to be rather sensitive to water logging. The young plants in the selection plots despite the spraying they received in May appear to be attacked at the growing tips by *Phytophthora*. 46.25 lbs. of wet sheet and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of wet scrap were obtained during the week.

SYSTEM.	YIELD PER TREE
	PER DAY IN OZ.

Plots 1 to 12	One-third daily	0.15
Plot 13	One-third daily	0.16
Plot 14	One-third alternate days	0.20
Plot 14 a.	Half alternate days	0.24
Plot 15	One-third daily	0.15
Plots 17 to 19	One-third daily	0.14

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, a wet week was experienced with 9.71 inches of rain, of which 3.26 inches fell on the 9th, the same day as the heavy shower at Mooply. No tapping could be done on 9th, 10th, 12th and 13th. *Tephrosia candida* in blocks F and G was cut over at a height of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet for the first time. Two typical plots each of 2 cents were chosen from this and the weight of loppings ascertained. These gave 54.5 lbs. and 44.5 lbs. of fish material respectively or an average of 2475 lbs. per acre. This crop was sown in November 1921. 33.09 lbs. of wet sheet and 2.99 lbs. of wet scrap were harvested during the week.

SYSTEM.	YIELD PER TREE
	PER DAY IN OZ.

Plots 1 to 14	One-third daily	0.31
Plot 20	One-third daily	0.35
Plot 17	One-third alternate days	0.47
Plots 15 and 18	Half alternate days	0.51
Plot 24 a.	One-third daily morning	0.43
Plot 24 b.	One-third daily evening	0.45
Plot 24 c.	One-third daily evening only	0.43

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

The Executive Committee have decided to separate the appointments of Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. and Director of the Labour Department and secure the full time services of one man for the latter post, which will materially add to the efficiency of that Department.

The appointment, as Director of the Labour Department, has been offered to and accepted by Major C. H. Brock, who will take up the duties as from the 1st August, with Head Quarters and Office at Coimbatore.

All letters on Labour matters intended for Head Quarters should therefore be addressed to the Director, Labour Department and not to the Secretary.

31st July 1922.

H. WADDINGTON,  
Secretary.

## MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

## MADRAS PLANTERS' CONSTITUENCY.

## NOTICE

*(amended.)*

A vacancy having occurred among the elected members of the Madras Legislative Council by the acceptance of the resignation of Mr. James Arthur Richardson, a member elected to the said Council by the Madras Planters' Constituency and the said Constituency having been called upon by his Excellency the Governor to elect a duly qualified person for the purpose of filling the said vacancy before the 15th September 1922, the Secretary, United Planters' Association, Southern India, who is the returning officer of the Constituency, hereby notifies that one person should be elected to the Madras Legislative Council by persons whose names are on the final electoral roll of the Constituency and the following is the programme for the election:—

Date on which and hours between which nominations should, in the case of personal presentation be handed by the proposer or Secunder to the Secretary, United Planters' Association, Southern India.	}	11th August 1922 11 A. M. — 4 P. M.
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Where nomination papers are sent by registered post the date on which and time before which they should reach the Secretary United Planters' Association, Southern India.	}	4 P. M. on the 11th August 1922.
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Scrutiny of nomination papers	Do
-------------------------------	----

Publication of the list of valid nominations	Do
--	----

Date and hours of polling	}	11th September 1922 3 P. M.—5 P. M.
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Place at which the poll will be taken	}	Office of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Coimbatore.
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Counting of Votes	}	12th September 1922 commen- cing from 11 A.M.
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Office of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, Coimbatore. 31st July, 1922.	}
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H. WADDINGTON,  
Returning Officer.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT

## MOSQUITO BLIGHT OF TEA

*(The following is the conclusion of Messrs. Anstead and Ballard's Report which commenced in our last issue)*

**Spraying.** We may state, as a general principle, that spraying is both uneconomical and impracticable under the conditions obtaining on South Indian estates. The factors contributing to the impracticability include the hilly nature of most estates, (some parts of which are, to all intents and purposes, perpendicular and often covered with big rocks), and the lack of easily accessible water at the time when spraying would be most beneficial.

If spraying is contemplated at all, and it is realised that in certain special cases it might be practicable, something better than the ordinary knapsack sprayer is needed. If the work is done by means of a knapsack sprayer and large areas have to be treated, at least 15 machines of 3 gallon working capacity would be required on the normal sized estate. (say 1000 acres). Spraying to be effective, must be done rapidly and more than one round would certainly be necessary at intervals of about 3 weeks.

In addition to this, the compact nature of a bush, say one or two years from pruning makes penetration by the spray extremely difficult. It would be well to emphasise at this point that the mere application of a spray to the leaves is not going to act as a deterrent, and success is only obtained by actually hitting either the adult insects or the nymphs. Taking these points into consideration and the fact that in all probability, only about one acre a day could be done thoroughly by one machine; with 15 machines a round of 500 acres would take 3 weeks by which time it would be necessary to begin the second round.

The only chance of even partial success which could be hoped for from spraying would be in using Pressure sprayers of a modern type, and a well trained spraying gang. It must be realised that spraying is highly skilled labour. Such modern sprayers would cost about £. 4 each. There might be a possibility of using a smaller number of large spraying machines of 18 gallon capacity fitted with two long hoses. These would be worked from paths and would have a range on each side of some 10 yards radius. Even in this case, a certain number of knapsack sprayers would be necessary. Such large machines would require 3-4 coolies to work them and would cost about £. 26. Any attempt at spraying with the existing apparatus which came to our notice is absolutely out of the question. This apparatus generally consisted of one or two machines of an antiquated pattern frequently out of order and unprovided with spare parts.

**Insecticides** During our tour, we frequently came across a certain proprietary insecticide which was being much boomed. Not only was this guaranteed to destroy insect pests and fungoid diseases, but incidentally, it was claimed it would completely cure mosquito

blight, and that the spraying of the tea bushes with the product stimulated the root action. "Not only does it kill insect pests on the leaves and the stems, but also cures the various diseases and prevents any recurrence, but through the bushes assimilating the product during operation the bush itself is greatly strengthened and becomes stronger and more healthy and thus more able to ward off diseases than any bushes unsprayed!"

Such a wonderful panacea does not of course exist, and there was nothing in the product likely to "stimulate the root action." The insecticide contained Ammonia, it is true, but not in a form in which it could ever be assimilated by the tea roots.

This material was supplied in 40 gallon barrels costing Rs. 60/- ex-godown at the port of entry and the strength recommended was 1 part to 30 parts of water. On this basis, the cost of 20 gallons of spray mixture is Re. 1; if fish oil resin soap, which is made in this country, were used, the effect would be as good and the cost of this material would be per 20 gallons 5 as. 4 ps. To this has to be added the cost of transport in both cases.

In these times, when economy is the watchword, it would appear that the use of expensive proprietary mixtures is totally out of the question, and estates should not be saddled with unnecessary expenditure of this sort even if the mixtures did all that was claimed for them which is far from likely to be the case.

It seems to us one of those occasions where the advice of the "Unpractical Scientist" might have been of use to the "Practical Planter" before plunging into unnecessary expenditure.

*Catching.* Spraying then being out of the question, we turn to the possibility of hand catching. If this is done systematically, and by that we mean concentrating efforts upon fields just coming into bearing so as to keep the insect off the plant until it can be picked and got into the factory, then undoubtedly, a certain benefit will accrue from this method.

This, we actually saw being done on certain estates with success and profit. It would appear at first sight that hand catching is like sweeping back the ocean, but the following figures of actual numbers caught on one estate convinced us that there is some practical benefit to be obtained. In one week alone, 78,000 nymphs and adults were caught and in one year, over 2,500,000 were captured. Of these, a certain proportion (about one-third at least) will be females and as each of these is capable of laying eggs for some two months, some good effect must be produced on the general infection.

At any rate, *Helopeltis* can actually be caught or chased out of definite areas, and thus enable such areas to produce a flush which can be harvested. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that sole reliance on indiscriminate catching by pluckers is waste of time and



money, and a regular catching gang must be employed as well. In all cases, only small children should be employed in these catching gangs as experience has shown that for this sort of work, the skill and interest taken by small children far surpasses that of adult coolies. One of us (the Government Entomologist) always employs children for similar work. For example, hand collection of caterpillars cut-worms, etc.

As a general principle, the burning instead of prunings is an estate practice to be advocated both for destroying eggs of *Helopeltis*, and from the fact that their burial is apt to allow root diseases to spread. No evidence came to our notice that *Helopeltis* came in from the jungle. Other food plants seen by us besides tea were, a species of *Solanum*, *Mussaenda frondosa*, and *Oehlandra travancorica*, (Ita), Guava, Chinchona, and a weed at present unidentified.

*Jât*. In Circular No. 44 of the Indian Tea Association, which was published in the *Planters' Chronicle*, page 634, Volume XIV 1919, Carpenter and Andrews state that the influence of the *jât* of tea is "so slight as to be negligible from a practicable point of view." As far as Southern India is concerned, we are unable to agree with this. China and China Hybrids are undoubtedly more susceptible to attack than other *jâts* and on certain estates where there is only a little China, it is this only which is attacked and on others the attack invariably begins on the China *jâts*. It is also noticeable that at the beginning of an attack, fields which contain only a few low *jât* bushes are infected first before the other tea is touched.

#### *Summary.*

- (1) Do everything to induce vigorous growth, and to counteract the unnatural condition under which tea is forced to grow. This includes good cultivation, manuring and careful preservation of top soil.
- (2) Pay special attention to the drainage system.
- (3) Spraying considered impracticable, and uneconomical, except in special cases.
- (4) Systematic catching.
- (5) Study of the possibility of the potash factor, experiment with small doses of potash frequently applied, and do not expect results in the first year.

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture Planting Districts.

E. BALLARD,

Government Entomologist.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

### EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF RUBBER MYCOLOGIST FROM MARCH-JUNE 1922.

1. **SECONDLY LEAF FALL DISEASE.** As Secondary Leaf Fall is the most serious problem with which rubber estates in Southern India are faced, a good deal of the work of the Mycological Station has centered around preventative measures against this disease. Observations upon Secondary Leaf Fall show that it is much more prevalent on trees growing in poor soil than on trees in good soil, or in situations where they obtain supplies of manure. As it seems evident from this, and other observations, that resistance to leaf fall is less due to the possession of any specific character, than to some condition in the tree, possibly to some constituent of the cell sap developed in trees growing in favourable situations, attempts have been made, both by manuring in the ordinary way, and by arranging experiments in which the roots are allowed to absorb nutritive solutions directly, to discover the factor which assists in producing resistance.

#### *(a) Manuring Experiments in Connection with Secondary Leaf Fall.*

Manures were applied throughout the months of February to May, the idea being firstly to assist the tree with nutritive materials at the period when attacks of *Phytophthora* are expected. As some experiments of the writer have shown that the "digging in" of manures in nature rubber frequently does more harm than good, owing to the destruction of roots occasioned in the process, soluble manures have been used as far as possible. In some cases the manures were dissolved in water and sprayed in with a watering can, but, in the majority of plots, the finely powdered manures were scattered by hand into old silt pits and subsequently covered with leaf-mulch. This latter method was found to be exceedingly economical, and since the light occasional showers experienced during these operations speedily dissolved the manures and carried them down to the roots, there was no appreciable loss by surface wash. Originally a series of 40 plots each comprising 150 trees was contemplated, but subsequently other plots were added, and sub-plots created making the series in all, more than one hundred.

Potash manures predominated in the combinations experimented with, but every manure which could be obtained was given a trial, both alone and in combination. The quantity of each manure was varied, and most of the manures were also tried in single and multiple applications.

*(b) Direct Absorption of pure Nutritive Solutions.* By the ordinary methods of manuring little of the manure is taken up by the plant in the form or concentration applied. The chemical consit-



tuents of the soil react with the manures, rendering some portions inassimilable, whilst the remainder is diluted or transformed into compounds of quite a different character from those put in. As it seemed possible that certain compounds of a definite concentration, or in their unadulterated state might have a specific action in connection with "Leaf Fall" resistance, the foregoing experiments have been supplemented by others in which pure solutions have been applied in such a manner that the roots could take them up directly. Trials were first made with solutions of potassium chloride, potassium nitrate and potassium sulphate in open pots. This method was however soon found to be impracticable owing partly to the too rapid evaporation and consequently varying concentration of the nutritive solutions, but mainly to the low vitality of the feeding roots of *Hevea* during the dry season. When digging for feeding roots for insertion in these pots, it was observed that the *Hevea* rootlets, for some distance from the surface, had died off to a large extent during the dry weather. Subsequently other methods were tried, and the method finally adopted on a large scale was to bury a large chatty in the vicinity of a small lateral root. The chatties were filled with clean river sand into which were poured solutions of the various salts of different concentrations. One or two small roots were then introduced into the sand, and the chatty finally covered with a stone.

In all, 285 plots containing different manures or manurial combinations in chatties have been laid down. In these plots every chemical which may conceivably have any value is being tried. The chemicals were mostly applied in solutions of 1 per cent concentration, applications being made fortnightly.

As a control on the chatty experiments, and with the object of exploring practical alternative methods of applying nutritive solutions, should favourable effects be noted, a further series of experiments have been made in which small sand pits are substituted for chatties. Altogether 240 of these pits have been dug and filled with clean sand. Manures in solutions have been applied periodically as in the case of the chatties.

2. INVESTIGATION OF HEVEA CORTEX. As the experiments which have been made elsewhere with the object of discovering a relation between the anatomical structure and yield of *Hevea* have led to some confusing results, I have been promoted to take up the question, and propose, as time permits, to make a thorough investigation of the anatomy of the South India *Hevea* trees. The points on which information will be sought are:-

1. Number of rows of latex vessels in trees at different ages.
2. Quantitative relation between number of rows and yield of tree.
3. Assuming relation found is definite enough for utilisation under practical conditions, what is the earliest age

at which the enumeration of the rows of latex vessels will give a reliable indication of a tree's yielding powers.

4. Quantitative relation between number of rows of latex vessels and the bark thickness.

5. The quantitative relation between rows of latex tubes and rate of girth increase.

6. Direction and disposition of latex vessels.

7. To ascertain whether, apart from the number of rows of latex tubes, there are any other anatomical characters which can be correlated with high or low milking powers.

8. To what extent, and at what rate are the latex tubes renewed after tapping, and after stripping for disease.

Up to the present, nothing is known of the anatomical structure of *Hevea* grown under South Indian climatic conditions, and this investigation may be expected to throw some light on a number of questions. One rather puzzling phenomenon which requires explanation is the failure of the local *Hevea* trees to maintain their yield increments. In Malaya, trees continue to increase in yield up to the sixteenth year. South Indian trees on the other hand, seem to reach their maximum before their tenth year, and thereafter the yield either declines or remain stationary. Loss of vitality by Secondary Leaf Fall is probably the main cause of low yields, but it will be interesting to see whether there is any other explanation. This anatomical investigation may also be expected to throw light on some obscure points connected with the developement of Brown Bast.

Since the number of rows of latex tubes varies at different heights on the tree, a preliminary investigation has had to be made to determine the most suitable height at which to take samples. As a result of this three feet has been chosen as the standard height. Owing to the danger of infection when wounds are made on wet trees during the monsoon, the work of collecting the samples of bark for investigation has been pushed on. To date bark samples from over 4000 trees have been obtained and suitably labelled for preservation. In order that the direction of the latex vessels can be determined with fair accuracy, a small 'spirit level' was devised, and all samples have been cut out with the aid of this.

It is proposed to make these investigations annually on a large number of trees. As it is possible that future anatomical development in the trees examined may render a reference to their earlier condition desirable, samples of bark from all trees are being kept after the points referred to have been noted.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I

REPORT NO. 26, (24-30 July).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at headquarters throughout the week under report.

2. COLLETOTRICHUM ON COFFEE. Planters are apt to think that a plant disease "appears suddenly" and is likely just as suddenly to disappear, and make this an excuse for doing nothing to prevent or destroy a disease. Both ideas are false. A disease probably never appears suddenly. It has been there all the time, but has remained unnoticed. Probably, it has done little damage, but has steadily gained a foot hold until a year comes when everything favours it, climatic conditions or something of that sort, and it becomes bad enough to be noticeable and it is said that it has 'suddenly' appeared. Many instances of this can be quoted. When Mosquito Blight, for instance, to become bad in the Nilgiri-Wynaad, it could not be said that it had suddenly appeared, it can, at any time, be found there now, but for some reason it is not at present a pest. The same thing applies to *Colletotrichum* of coffee. It is to be found in most coffee districts if not in all. It is the cause of a certain amount of dying back of the branches, often wrongly attributed to over bearing, while many, of course, be a contributory cause, and for a spot disease of both leaves and berries. In some districts, this fungus has got steadily worse. Last year, we had specimens of berries attacked by this fungus sent in from one estate, and now it has appeared on the young crop, and we are told that the young berries are falling off "and in a number of cases the ground is carpeted under the trees with fallen berries." Thus, the disease is getting a serious matter.

Various remedies can be adopted. After crop, all the dead wood should be removed and the bushes pruned hard and all the prunings should be burned. The affected fields should be heavily limed. On an estate in Coorg, we were informed by the Manager that where the soil had been dug during the monsoon, the disease was worst, and where lime had been applied, there was very little. Finally, the bushes should be sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture early in the season, and again later in the year. In 1904, this disease was reported to be spreading in the Nilgiris, and was considered by some planters to be a worse danger than leaf disease. Spraying was adopted with success. About two months after the first spraying, the new shoots which had been put out were reported to have a fine healthy look and to appear free from the fungus. A second spraying was then given and three months later, it was reported that two thirds of the bushes throw out strong healthy wood and only here and there, a sickly twig. The remaining third were heavily pruned and 18 months later were reported to have remained not quite but almost free from disease. At the same time, good cultivation, drainage, and manuring should be adopted to keep the coffee in vigour as the fungus is a weak parasite. Spraying is, of course, troublesome and expensive. That is quite understood, and admitted, but it is not so costly as loss

of crop to the extent of having "the ground carpeted" with fallen berries.

3. BARK EATING CATERPILLAR ON RUBBER. The caterpillar mentioned by the Government Entomologist in his report published in a recent issue of the Chronicle, as eating the bark of rubber trees has now been identified as *Aetherastis circulata*. The insect referred to by Petch, in his recent book as eating rubber bark is probably *Comocritis picria* a closely related caterpillar.

#### 4. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (17-31 July).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station* heavy monsoon rain set in at the end of the week and a total of 6.31 inches was recorded. Pitting for supplies was continued and permanent shade plants have been put out in the Hybrid plots. A second round of removal of bored coffee Plants has been begun.

At the *TEA EXPERIMENT STATION*, a very wet week was experienced with very strong gales of wind. This has damaged both the tea, and the green dressing crops and the latter are beginning to suffer from the continued rain. 14.37 inches were recorded during the week. Only 286 lbs. of green leaf were plucked from 6½ acres. There is very little Mosquito Blight so far this year.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, 7.04 inches of rain was gauged distributed over six days. Secondary leaf-fall is bad. 55½ lbs. of wet sheet and 10 lbs. of wet scrap were obtained during the week.

	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 12.	One-third daily.	0.13
Plot 13.	One-third daily.	0.16
Plot 14.	One-third alternate days.	0.26
Plot 14 a.	Half alternate days.	0.33
Plot 15.	One-third daily.	0.18
Plots 17-19.	One-third daily.	0.12

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, 4.34 inches of rain was received distributed over six days. Secondary leaf-fall is spreading and the pods are all rotten. Tapping was done each day though somewhat disturbed by rain on three days. 76.36 lbs. of wet sheet and 5.7 lbs. of wet scrap were harvested.

	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 14.	One-third daily.	0.34
Plot 20.	One-third daily.	0.41
Plot 17.	One-third alternate days.	0.49
Plots 15 and 18.	Half alternate days.	0.55



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Plot 24 a.	One-third daily morning.	0.38
Plot 24 b.	One-third daily evening.	0.40
Plot 24 c.	One-third daily evening only.	0.38

RUDOLPH. D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

**Esenophile for Fever.** We very much regret that our issue of the 22nd July, on page 430, contained a misprint in Mr. Anstead's Report for June. In the last line of the first Paragraph it was printed that Esenophile had *not* proved successful, whereas it should have read that it has proved *most* successful. The Estate Manager in question has called our attention to the misprint and has asked us to correct it, as Esenophile is, in his experience, an absolute specific for Malaria, and makes the patient feel fitter after four days' treatment than he was before the fever attacked him.

**Billiard Tournament.** The Manager of the West End Hotel proposes to hold a Billiard Tournament among the members of the various Associations represented at Bangalore during the Annual Meeting, and has kindly offered a silver cup to the winner. It is to be hoped that all delegates will enter for the Tournament, and the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I. will be glad to hear as soon as possible from all the delegates who are going to Bangalore whether they will enter for it.

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents).*

#### RE-ORGANISATION OF U. P. A. S. I.

Dear Sir,

I have read the proposals of the Executive Committee with great interest.

The proposals appear to assume that the general activities of the Labour Department are, to a large extent, of common benefit to all members, and, from the proposed subscription of Re. 1 per acre, for all products, it is proposed to continue to subsidise the Labour Department.

The Committee's proposals do not clearly state this, but from the fact that, the expenses of general activities of the U. P. A. S. I., have hitherto been covered at a cost of a few annas per acre, together with the statement that the proposed subscription is "to cover the expenses of general activities, which are common to all members, as regard

both the U. P. A. S. I., *and its* Departments", it is assumed that this is so.

To put the position plainly, it is contended that I am called upon to make a heavy contribution to a Department that gives me no return, on the contrary, this contribution is expended for the benefit of other members, this is believed to be the attitude of most members who do not use the Labour Department.

It would appear from the Executive Committee's proposals, that the policy of subsidising the Labour Department is to be continued previous to the Labour Commission's report, it was generally believed that the Labour Department was to be self-supporting.

There is no justification put forward for continuing the former, while on fair and equitable grounds, there is every justification for adopting the latter policy.

It is firmly believed, that in the long run, the supporters of the present policy are acting short sightedly. Generally speaking, members not using the Labour Department represent estates which though individually small, are in the aggregate, a fairly large acreage, still however a decided minority, a considerable amount of similar acreage remains outside the U. P. A. S. I. If in such an important matter as the re-organization of the U. P. A. S. I. the interests of a minority are to be sacrificed what guarantee is there that their interests will be safeguarded in the future.

Should such a position arise the U. P. A. S. I. will undoubtedly lose a considerable acreage, also the acreage, which stands out, because they consider the benefits to be derived from joining are, while the subscription includes a subsidy to the Labour Department out of all proportion to the cost involved, would have no inducement to join.

There is the possibility to be considered that the withdrawals might be so great, as to reduce the acreage to such an extent, that the U. P. A. S. I. could no longer claim authoritatively to represent the planting community. On the other hand, if the benefits to be derived from membership of the Association, excluding the Labour Department, could be obtained at actual cost, and a policy adopted to guarantee that the interests of a minority would be safe-guarded, there would be a prospect of most of the remaining acreage joining.

That members using the Labour Department should pay for its upkeep is just and equitable, this should be made the policy of the Association on re-organization, the adoption of any other policy is likely to have consequences most serious to the future of the Association.

Yours faithfully,  
G. W. HOLLINGS,



Dear Sir,

I send for publication in your paper a letter addressed to the Secretary, U. P. A. S. I.

Yours faithfully,  
(Sd). J. J. MURPHY.

I am in receipt of your Circular No. 2906 of the 8th. inst. As regards the first paragraph, the Articles of Association of the U. P. A. S. I. may make the resignation of its members impossible before the 31st March 1924. But U. P. A. S. I. membership consists of District Associations, and nothing in the U. P. A. S. I. Articles of Association can prevent an Estate from resigning from its District Association. For example, Yendayar Estate is not directly responsible for the U. P. A. S. I. for anything and there is nothing to prevent it from resigning from the Mundakayam Planters' Association, should I, as Proprietor, approve. It may be said that resignation from a District Association would be morally wrong, but this is a matter of opinion, and many evidently think that resignation is quite fair.

I am unable to see how the Agreement the small Sub Committee made with some of the Coast Agents meets the situation as regards Rubber Estates. It offers absolutely no help to Estates which are tapping.

The acceptance of the offer of the Government of Madras to hold in abeyance the recovery of the contribution payable by the U. P. A. S. I. towards the Rubber Mycological Station and its staff should entail the holding in abeyance of say 10 as. per acre subscription from all Rubber Estates. If Rubber Estates in tapping are expected to pay their full subscription while Government charges on the Mycological Station are not being met, it appears that the situation at the end of 2 years will be worse than it is at present. The full subscription paid by Rubber Estates in tapping will no doubt, to judge by past efforts at getting rid of cash, have been spent on other U. P. A. S. I. activities. It certainly is not clear to me how the arrears which will be due to Government are to be met.

I would like now to point out that it is not, as your Circular gives one to understand, only Rubber Proprietors who are dissatisfied with the present working of the U. P. A. S. I. I am told in fact that more Tea and Coffee Estates than Rubber properties have already resigned. Personally my interests are fairly evenly divided between Rubber and Tea (the balance being in favour of Tea) but as I told the Labour Commission I grudge the big cess charged through the M. P. A. on Tea considerably more than the cess on Rubber. The reason is that for rubber payments some return is given seeing that a Mycologist with practical knowledge of planting is working for us in a well equipped station where as the return for tea subscriptions is, in my opinion--and I have every wish to be fair, very small indeed.

Yours faithfully,  
J. J. MURPHY.

**BRITISH INCOME TAX.**

Dear Sir,

A short time ago you were good enough to insert a letter for me on the subject of British Income Tax. As a result I have had the pleasure of answering inquiries from many of your readers and have been instrumental in pointing out to them how they could recover the tax which has been deducted from income received from this country. In many cases readers were under the impression that they could not claim because the securities were held in the names of persons residing in this country.

It has occurred to me that there may be others in a like position who are still under the impression that they have no claim for repayment. I should like to point out to such persons that every British Subject who received Income which has suffered deduction of tax in this country may recover the whole or part thereof irrespective as to whether the securities stand in their own names or not.

By the last Finance Act the Income Tax was reduced from 6/- to 5/- in the £. and recipients of income from this country should take care that the tax is deducted at the lower rate in future.

Any further information I shall be pleased to submit.

Yours faithfully,

S. J. KING,

Room 41, Langbourne Chambers,

11th July 1922. 17 Fenchurch Street, E. C.

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## STATISTICS U. P. A S. I.

SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN COFFEE FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1922.

From.	To other ports in India	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Asia.	Africa.	America	Australasia
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Madras.	282	...	...	...	7	...	...	...
Calicut.	...	20	...	...	110	...	...	...
Cochin.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Mangalore.	...	...	...	1000	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry.	...	...	385	24	...	...	...	...
Bombay & Miner Ports	...	...	...	...	622	7	...	...
Total this month: From 1st April 21 to 31st May 1922.	282	20	385	1024	739	7	...	161
	7550	1	32335	61944	5982	367	2160	6920
Total 1-4-21 to 30-6-1922.	7832	21	32720	62968	6721	374	2160	6981

GRAND TOTAL EXPORTS ... 119,777 CWTs.

## STATISTICS U. P. A. S. I.

SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.		Ceylon.		U. K.		Europe other than U. K.		America.	
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
Calicut.	...		24,484		...		...		...	
Cochin.	43,770		...		32,177		...		76,868	
Tellicherry.	...		...		...		...		...	
Tuticorin.	...		94,265		...		...		...	
Totals this month.	43,770		118,749		32,177		...		76,868	
From 1st Jan., 22 to 31st May 1922.	245,054		399,299		1,199,387		101,076		548,084	
Total from 1st Jan. 22 to 30th June 1922.	288,824		518,048		1,231,564		101,076		624,952	
GRAND TOTAL	...		...		2,764,464 lbs.					



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

### PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION REPORT FOR JULY, 1922

**Weather.** Rain has been plentiful in South Travancore, but the rainfall in the Tinnevely District has not been sufficient for agricultural purposes.

**Health.** Influenza has been fairly bad in the Nagercoil Area and Small pox in the Tinnevely District. Foot and mouth disease has been bad amongst cattle in the Tinnevely District.

**Agriculture.** Most of the cultivation is over and this slack period will continue till end of August, after which date there will be a big demand for labour in the low country.

**Prices of foodstuff.** The prices of rice, paddy, cholam and chillies are high, which is to be expected at this time of the year.

**Wages.** Roughly the wages are at present 3-4 annas women and 6-9 annas for men. The demand for male labour is greater than female labour. This is accounted for by the fact that the main agricultural work just now is repairing bunds, cutting channels, etc.

Palamcottah  
2nd August, 1922. ]

A. G. A. DUNNING,  
Superintendent

## SOUTH TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT QUILON CLUB, QUILON, ON SATURDAY THE 22ND JULY 1922 AT 10 A. M.

*Present.* Messrs. Lord, Cook, Sherman, J. L. Hall, Knight, Ross, Farr, Lampard, Mackie (Act. Chairman) Jackson, Hon. Secretary.

*Visitors.* Messrs. Danning & Cameron.

Mr. J. Mackie was unanimously elected Chairman of the Meeting. Notice calling the Meeting was read.

The minutes of Quarterly General Meeting held on 18th February 1922, Extraordinary General Meeting held on 18th March 1922, and Annual General Meeting held on 7th May 1921 were read and confirmed.

### CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Mr. L. G. Knight's letter re Railway communications was withdrawn after discussion and explanation.
- (2) The Secretary U. P. A. S. I.'s letter re Inter-district rules was read and discussed and Hon. Secretary instructed to send copies to all members.
- (3) Indian Tea Association's letter re Scientific Department publications was read and Hon. Secretary instructed to circularise members.
- (4) Letter from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. and enclosure from the Manager, Madras Mail, re Planting and Produce Supplement was read.
- (5) Letters from Superintendent Vailamullay Estate, and U. P. A. S. I. re resignation of said Estate from the Association. Hon. Secretary instructed to forward to Superintendent Vailamullay Estate, U. P. A. S. I. circular of 8th July 1922.
- (6) Letters from Mr. Cook re Meeting called for 6th May at which there was not a quorum.  
The Chairman explained the position to Mr. Cook and apologised to him on behalf of the members for their lack of support.

**SRI MULAM DELEGATE'S REPORT.** Mr. Jackson read his report and was thanked by the Chairman on behalf of the Meeting.

**REPORT OF DELEGATE TO COIMBATORE MEETING** Postponed from meeting of the 18th February 1922. Mr. Lord, the delegate, gave a synopsis of what occurred at the Meeting and as there were no questions the subject was closed.

Honorary Secretary then read his report.

**ACCOUNT.** Copies were circulated amongst the members present, and it was proposed by Mr. Ross and seconded by Mr. Lord that they be adopted.



ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS. Mr. Cook was again proposed as Chairman but he declined office.

The Chairman then referred to the excellent services Mr. Cook had rendered the Association as its Chairman in the past years and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to him for the time and trouble he had so unselfishly given to the Association and hoped that later on he would see his way to take office again.

Mr. Ross seconded the proposal which was heartily agreed to by the members.

Mr. Mackie then proposed Mr. Pryde as Chairman and this was seconded by Mr. Cook and received the support of the Meeting and Mr. Pryde was declared elected.

Mr. Jackson was unanimously elected Honorary Secretary and received the thanks of the meeting for his past services.

*Committee.*—Messrs Knight, Farr, J. L. Hall.

OTHER BUSINESS. Mr. Farr brought up the subject of labour rates and allowances and after discussions it was decided that an effort be made to get unity in regard to these matters.

Mr. Dunning, Labour Superintendent of Palamcottah Division on being called on, addressed the Meeting on Labour & Recruiting. He pointed out the present tendency amongst kanganies to default, and strongly advised the policy of taking security against advance and the offering of more attractive commission to Kangannies willing to give security. Mr. Dunning answered a great many questions on labour matters generally and a vote of thanks was accorded him for his presence.

Delegates to U. P. A. S. I. Bangalore Meeting on 21st August.

It was proposed and agreed to by the Meeting that the Chairman and Honorary Secretary should attend as delegates.

The Agenda of U. P. A. S. I. Meeting was discussed item by item and the delegates were instructed how to vote.

The Meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THOS. L. JACKSON,

Honorary Secretary.

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

### REPORT ON A TOUR MADE ON THE WEST COAST.

1. GREEN DRESSINGS. *Tephrosia candida* (Boga Medeloa) has proved a most popular green dressing, and is to be seen on most Rubber estates now-a-days. Even most notorious members of the clean weeding school have, I notice, become converts to this useful cover plant. I note, however, that in some places it is planted up and down the rows of trees on steep slopes (the rows of rubber being kept

clean weeded) instead of across the slope. The full benefit is not obtained in this method as the soil down the rows is still liable to wash. In young clearings, especially, there is no excuse for this, as it is not necessary for the tappers to get along the rows.

Now that large acreages are under this cover, a certain amount of disease on it is to be expected. Nothing very serious has so far appeared with the exception perhaps of a scale insect already noticed in the first part of this report. This was probably induced by the phenomenal drought experienced this year, and in any case, appears to confine itself to young clearings in the open where it can be easily dealt with by cutting it over as soon as the pest appears. A small proportion of the plants also die of a wilt disease and in one district, the leaves are being attacked by fungi which cause Brown and Grey Blight, but this is coming from the surrounding tea.

Should a pest like scale ever seriously attack Boga, it could be rotated with *Indigofera endecaphylla*, which is also proving a most useful cover crop for young clearings. The Indigo is difficult to grow from seed and nurseries should be established near factories and water which will supply cuttings for the field if necessary.

The great advantage of Boga is that it will grow readily under the shade of old rubber, which no other cover crop I have yet found will do satisfactorily. For this purpose, it is invaluable and very large areas are now planted with it. There is a tendency to let it grow too long and too big before cutting it over, but this is due a great deal to the necessity for letting it flower to provide seed of which there is at present a shortage.

The amount of green material which it will provide if kept regularly cut is enormous. A small plot under 1910 planted rubber on the Rubber Experiment Station at Mooply, gave the following figures:—Tephrosia sown on 20th October 1920, cut over on 30th May 1921, gave 3,500 lbs. of fresh material per acre, cut again on 1st October, gave 3,750 lbs. and cut a third time on 9th May 1922, gave 4,880 lbs. This is a total of 12,130 lbs. per acre, in 16 months.

An analysis of the green material showed it to contain when cut 0.66 per cent of Nitrogen, 0.19 per cent of Phosphoric acid, and 0.57 per cent of Potash, so that this means we have added to the soil during a period of 16 months, 79 lbs. of Nitrogen, 23 lbs. of Phosphoric acid, and 68 lbs. of Potash. It is true that the two latter were derived from the soil itself, but they are returned in a form rapidly available to the rubber. The bulk of the Nitrogen, however, was obtained from the air and the plant acts as a cheap and economical form of Nitrogenous Manure.

It has been contended that Rubber grow under cover of a green dressing instead of being kept clean weeded will be retarded in growth. That this is not the case can be seen, I think, from the following girth census taken in a 1917 clearing, in the fifth year of its age on two separate estates. In both cases, the clearings were under



a green dressing from the first. In the first case, this was Boga and *Leucaena glauca*, and in the second, Boga and a certain amount of big Dadap.

Girth in Inches.	Percentage of Trees.	
	Estate A.	Estate B.
Under 12. ...	31.8	25
12 to 13. ...	20.0	10
13 to 14. ...	19.1	20
14 to 15. ...	6.4	10
15 and over. ...	22.7	35

These figures will be found quite as good, or even better than any from a clearing which has been clean weeded all the time.

In Tea, Boga is not quite so easy to handle, as it is apt to get a little too big. The ideal plant for a tea green dressing has yet to be found. However, if it is planted in alternate rows so as to leave one row clear for the pluckers and kept regularly cut, it is capable of being a valuable crop, and should reduce the nitrogen bill very considerably. It is possible that by sowing it very thickly indeed, it could be induced to form a lower growth and this is, at any rate, worth trying. The row in which the Boga is not growing might well be kept under a cover of *Oxalis corniculata* which has proved itself of great value as a preventative of wash while doing no harm whatever to the tea. On estates in the High Range large areas are under this cover which is beginning to form a deposit of black organic matter on the surface soil. Big weed and grass can easily be pulled out of it, and as it is a very common plant everywhere it can easily be established by means of a few selective weedings, the coolies being taught to leave it. In young clearings it is of very special value.

Other weeds of value as preventives of soil erosion on tea estates which I noticed during this tour are "Moss"—a species of Selaginaceae and *Peperomia pellucida*, a weed which naturally covers the soil in Travancore tea estates during the monsoon and dies off in the hot weather. *Desmodium triflorum*, a clover like plant, is also of great value, especially on steep slopes, where it can be encouraged to form a sort of turf. This again is a common weed in most places and can be established by selective weeding.

Another plant which is fairly common, especially on grass land tea is *Cassia mimosoides*. Excellent results have been obtained with this as a green dressing on many estates. It dies off in the hot weather, but resows itself. On one estate in Peermade, I saw it coming up in large quantities in a reclaimed clearing and it could easily be established by selective weeding.

2. CLEAN WEEDING. There is no doubt in my mind that the system of persistent clean weeding which has been carried out year after year on many estates is largely responsible for the trouble which

is now being experienced with diseases. In the case of Rubber, each year, the trees are attacked by *Phytophthora Meadii* which particularly or in some years wholly defoliates them. I do not mean to say that *Phytophthora* attack was induced by clean weeding, but I do contend that the trees are less and less able to contend with this disease as the top soil is removed with its soil bacteria and plant food. The health of the trees gets steadily worse and this is reflected in their slow rate of growth and diminished yields. Now, other troubles are beginning to show up on these weakened trees in the shape of an attack of Scale Insects in some places. This is all a sign of the diminished vigour and health of the tress largely brought about by clean weeding. In some cases, I note that this has been recognised and estates which for years have been religiously clean weeded are now attempting to grow Boga, but in many cases, it is too late, all the top soil having been long ago scraped down into the rivers to be carried to the plains. In other cases, clean weeding is still going on and estates are spending Rs. 12/- or more per acre. per annum in removing weeds from under old Rubber which could not possibly do any harm. This too when the Rubber is not being tapped. Had the estates in question been planted in Boga or even left alone, this money could have been saved at a time when money is badly needed. It would also set free labour for other purposes. So often the scientific adviser is told that his recommendations for dealing with a pest or disease or some definite improvement cannot be carried out, because there is no labour to spare for the purpose. Having been told this, it is irritating, to say the least of it, to find big gang industriously pulling small weeds out of a field of old Rubber or scraping the top soil off a tea clearing in a vain endeavour to get rid of grass.

In the 13 years in which I have been in the country, I have seen lots of rubber which was planted in black rich virgin soil which is now standing on red, gravelly sub-soil, all the top soil having been lost by weeding.

In the case of tea, the same thing happens. The top soil is assiduously scraped off and Brown Blight, and other troubles appear. I know of one instance where the ultimate end of this practice has been practically reached. The tea bushes are on little mounds a foot to eighteen inches above the ground showing how much soil has been lost. They are attacked by Mosquito Blight, Brown and Grey Blight, and Nectria, and are dying back in all directions. It is useless to expect any Scientific Officer to step in at this stage, and advice a cure. The damage has been done and the trouble has passed the stage when he can do anything, but reverently left his hat to the dying.

These warnings have been persistently given, perhaps *ad nauseam* some of my readers may think, but now that the possibility of green dressings has been proved and demonstrated and that they are actually being grown with advantage over large areas, I feel that I must once more reiterate my warning against the evils of all systems of clean weeding. (*To be continued*),



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 27, (31 July—6 August).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, was at Head-quarters till 4th, when he left for Madras, having been appointed Acting Director of Agriculture, vice Mr. H. C. Sampson on leave.

2. **SPRAYING.** As bearing on the report of Messrs. Anstead and Ballard on a tour of the West Coast recently published in the Chronicle, the following which has been extracted from a report on the progress in methods of practical fruit growing which appeared in Volume 82 of the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England 1921 is of interest,

Speaking about diseases, the author of this report says, "There is still a disappointing lack of common knowledge amongst growers of the results obtained and often something of a sceptical acceptance of the remedies suggested. This is partly due to the lack of appreciation on the part of the practical man to the real value of the life history of a disease. He is apt half-jokingly to abraid science for telling him all about what the insect or fungus does, without suggesting some showy and immediate cure. It is irritating to be told merely to cut out and burn all affected parts, especially when one has been hoping for some newly invented spray that will prove a panacea. But if the grower would only trouble to listen a little more to what the life-history revealed, he might realise that in the end it would have been more practical and more saving of money to hand pick, or cut out and burn, than to waste thousands of gallons on experimental washing which may be practically and perhaps utterly ineffective."

With reference to spraying the author says, "In order to be successful, all the knowledge of the grower and all the intelligence of the operators should be brought into play during spraying operations. Though a great deal of spraying is well done, a very great deal more is badly done, and not only is it sheer waste of time and money, but it brings good remedies into disrepute. This is partly the fault of those people who exist in all industries, and who claim to provide the panacea for all ills. There is no such panacea, nor is there likely to be. Diseases and pests are so diverse in their nature and methods of attack that even if a universal chemical or compound could be found to satisfy all insecticidal and fungicidal requirements, it would prove unsatisfactory. One pest requires the application of the spray as a thin film over the leaf, another needs direct force and actual hitting involving almost a clench. The different times and seasons of attack, the different positions of the enemy, render the quest for a panacea futile. To get good results, the grower must first consider what he is actually spraying for, then when is the best time to spray for that purpose, and finally what is the most suitable method of application. It is here that a knowledge of life histories is again invaluable to him. There is always a best moment to attack the enemy, if that moment is lost it is sometimes better not to attack it at all. One spraying at the right time is not only more effective as a killing or preventive agent, but is more eco-

nomical. It will save several partially futile later attempts. There is always a best method of application. The mere adjustment of a nozzle from fine to coarse, or from upward to downward may make all the difference. People have been seen to waste gallons of fluid in spraying the upper surface of leaves when both surface needed a coating."

### 3. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (24-30 July).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, disappointing monsoon weather was experienced only 2.05 inches of rain being gauged. The second round of removal of bored trees has been completed resulting in the removal of 43 trees. Last year, 216 trees were removed and this has evidently had a good effect. Supply pits have been filled ready for planting next month. Some sickle weeding has been done.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, there was less rain during the week only 6.29 inches being recorded, but strong winds continue to blow. The yield continued to be poor, 432 lbs. of green leaf being plucked from 9.98 acres. The growth of *Tephrosia candida* is slow, but it is hoped to get it established despite the wind and rain. *Indigofera* is beginning to establish itself.

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply*, there was rain on six days of the week, and a total of 3.76 inches was gauged. Seed selection is being done from the Station and the neighbouring estates. Tapping was done regularly and 65½ lbs. of wet sheet and 9½ lbs. of wet scrap harvested.

System	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1 to 12, One-third daily.	0.16
Plot 13. One-third daily.	0.21
Plot 14. One-third alternate days.	0.23
Plot 14 a. Half alternate days	0.25
Plot 15. One-third daily.	0.17
Plot 17-19. One-third daily.	0.14

At the *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai*, light rains were received during the week and a total of 1.82 inches recorded. The secondary leaf-fall this year is a very light attack so far, and for the present seems to have stopped. It began early, however, and consequently, all the seed is rotten and no selection will be possible this year. Tapping was done regularly, and was not much interfered with. 88.4 lbs. of wet sheet and 6.58 lbs. of wet scrap were obtained.

System	Yield per tree per day in oz.
Plots 1-14. One-third daily.	0.38
Plot 20. One-third daily.	0.42
Plot 17. One-third alternate days	0.48
Plots 15 and 18. Half alternate days.	0.68
Plot 24 a. One-third daily morning	0.48
Plot 24 b. One-third daily evening	0.46
Plot 24 c. One-third daily evening only	0.43

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



**RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.**

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom  
as per BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS, for April 1922.

**IMPORTS.**

FROM	FIVE					
	MAY.			MONTHS ENDED MAY.		
	1922.	1921.	1920.	1922.	1921.	1920.
Malaya	3,908	4,459	1,778	16,958	27,129	21,358.
Ceylon and India	754	1,573	1,288	5,735	9,971	10,790.
Dutch East Indies, etc.	990	1,487	536	3,350	7,199	3,879.
Brazil and Peru	447	81	1,334	1,608	1,004	3,945.
Other Countries	20	55	436	205	474	1,429.
<i>Total Tons.</i>	6,119	7,655	5,372	27,856	45,777	41,401.

**EXPORTS.**

TO	FIVE MONTHS					
	MAY.			ENDED MAY.		
	1922.	1921.	1920.	1922.	1921.	1920.
United States of America	686	421	2,104	13,086	3,738	20,038.
Canada	60	7	201	261	18	1,752.
France	1,023	288	1,494	5,932	1,487	6,723.
Belgium	95	56	122	598	299	1,355.
Italy	264	23	315	1,098	387	1,759.
Germany, Austria, Hungary	834	579	628	4,035	3,065	1,801.
Other Countries	307	206	305	1,072	1,092	1,165.
<i>Total Tons.</i>	3,269	1,580	5,169	26,082	10,086	34,593.

**LANDINGS, DELIVERIES and STOCKS** in London and  
Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the  
month of MAY

		LANDED.		DELIVERED.		STOCKS 31ST MAY.		
		FOR MAY.	FOR MAY.	FOR MAY.	FOR MAY.	1922.	1921.	1920.
London	{ Plantation	5,005	3,495	70,018	70,006	20,354.		
	{ Other Grades	1	2	128	397	567.		
Liverpool	{ Plantation	652	148	7,593	6,965	1,104.		
	{ Para and Peru	170	175	980	1,005	1,350.		
	{ Other Grades	—	2	429	460	445.		
<i>Totals London and Liverpool.</i>		5,828	3,822	79,148	78,833	23,820.		

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.**  
**MYSORE DIVISION REPORT FOR JULY**

During the month the rainfall in the Mysore country has been insufficient, small showers have fallen in parts but much more is needed and the standing crops in some Districts are withering. Ploughing and sowing is now all finished and advanced coolies have now no excuse for not having gone in. The price of foodstuffs is generally higher and the latest Gundlupet shandy prices are

Ragi	Rs. 12/-	per pullah of 100 seers.
Rice	„ 25/-	„
Cholam	„ 13/-	„
Gram	„ 15/-	„

In some Taluks a re-survey of land has recently taken place and in consequence the Government Khandayam has been re-assessed at a higher rate. Small cultivators are not finding Agriculture quite so profitable as they did a year or two back and it remains to be seen if this will cause more coolies to seek Estate work.

Mysore }  
 8th August 1922 }

C. C. KENT,  
 Superintendent.

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.**  
**COIMBATORE DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT**  
**FOR JULY 1922**

**WEATHER.** Coimbatore District has experienced about a week of good steady rain during the month which should do the crops a great deal of good. Further East, rain, up to the time of my visit, had not fallen to an appreciable extent. Presumably it must be a heavy monsoon in the Hills and all along the west Coast, as all the Tanks in Coimbatore District are full; also the rivers running east are swollen.

**LABOUR.** Coolies still continue to go up and many Maistries now have their full contracted number on the Estates. From around Erode the Railway has absorbed more coolies, latterly, than usual as some of the lines are being relaid. I understand for this work, wages range between as. 8 to as. 10, and as. 5 to as. 7 for men and women respectively. In this District and Bhavani there is ample water owing to the Bhavani Channel having been opened at the end of June; hence Agricultural work is employing more coolies than it did during the latter part of May and early June.

From Salem Namakal side, after the first gangs of coolies going up, Maistries and coolies have been very slow in moving. I cannot find out why this is as there are large numbers of coolies available from this side, it being thickly populated. Of course there is this to be borne in mind, the Ceylon Labour Commission are very active in this Neighbourhood and there is no doubt that many coolies go to Ceylon. Ragi in these Districts is planted up and, especially around Namakal, doing well up to the time of my visit. The lack of rain



however made the Ryots doubtful as to whether it would mature into a good crop. If it could only have a shower or two on it now, there is every prospect of it being a good crop.

Around Palani, coolies planting paddy are earning as 8 to 12 and as 5 to 6, men and women respectively. Agricultural work is only going on near the rivers, tanks and wells, as there has been no rain. Women coolies collecting fire-wood can earn as much as as. 8 per day, and there are a large number of them employed at this work. The Ragi crop is suffering owing to the lack of rain.

Dharapuram is, like Palani, suffering from lack of rain, and coolies still go up freely as there is little work for them to do. The Ryots there are more optimistic than elsewhere as they are of the opinion that, after the high wind which was prevailing, rain will come.

**PRICES OF GRAINS.** These have varied little from last month, but if any thing are slightly increased.

#### **Pollachi Shandy Prices:—**

Table Rice	...	Superior	...	Rs. 17 to Rs. 17½	per bag of 53 Madras Measures.
Do.	...	Inferior	...	Rs. 13¼ - Rs. 13½	Do. Do. Do.
Doll	...	Superior	...	Rs. 17 - Rs. 17½	Do. Do. Do.
Do.	...	Inferior	...	Rs. 15	Do. Do. Do.
Cholan	...	Superior	...	Rs. 14	Do. Do. Do.
Do.	...	Inferior	...	Rs. 13	Do. Do. Do.
Horse Gram	...	...	...	Rs. 11 to Rs. 11½	Do. Do. Do.
Payaroo	...	...	...	Rs. 13½ - Rs. 14	Do. Do. Do.
Black Gram	...	...	...	Rs. 19	Do. Do. Do.
Wheat	...	...	...	Rs. 22	Do. Do. Do.
Corriander	...	...	...	Rs. 10	Do. Do. Do.

**HEALTH**, in the Tamil District is good on the whole, with the exception of a few outlying villages around Palni where plague has broken out.

Coimbatore } J. H. BENNET  
10th Aug. 1922) Superintendent.

#### **MARKET REPORTS.**

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co., quote as follows from Messrs. Leslie and Anderson's Report of 13th July:—

**COFFEE.** The supplies offered at Auctions this week were moderate. Some really fine Costa Ricas were included in the catalogues. Good competition by the Home Trade resulted in a portion of "Fair" Bold Costa Rica being sold at 110/ 6d. per cwt. but the bulk of these fine coffees were withdrawn as Importers' limits were on a higher level than this. 130s./-per cwt. was paid for Peaberries. This all goes to show that the market is sound for good quality coffee, which is scarce, and we still hope to realise full prices for withdrawn lots of good quality, but can expect little enquiry during the holiday months.

TEA. Catalogues for Auctions this week were on a large scale. The market was distinctly quieter, rates frequently marking a sharp decline from those obtained last week. Common and medium kinds were in least request with quotations shewing a drop of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per lb., whilst better descriptions, although moving with some irregularity, met a fair demand, without a material change in values.

RUBBER. With little business passing and no sustained enquiry prices have sagged and to-day's quotation of 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. spot crepe and R. S. S. is  $\frac{3}{8}$ d. lower than the values on Friday. On Saturday morning there was some evidence of an American enquiry in the market with the result that sheets were at a slight premium. These orders are being fulfilled very quietly and while the fluctuations in the Continental exchanges hinder business with the countries concerned, there seems to be no immediate prospect of a general improvement.

To-day's prices are :—

Spot 7 $\frac{3}{8}$  d. buyers : July 7 $\frac{3}{8}$  d. buyers August 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  d. buyers.

October / December 8d. January / March 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ d.

London Stocks 72,006, an increase of 235 tons.

### PLANTING MEMBER MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Nomination papers having been opened and scrutinised, there being but one nomination received, namely that of Mr. C. R. T. Congreve of Castlecroft Estate, Valparai, he was duly declared elected.

H. WADDINGTON,

Returning Officer,

Madras Planters' Constituency.

11th August 1922



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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### LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

#### MANGALORE DIVISION REPORT FOR JULY 1922.

**Weather.** Rainfall was very heavy during the first part of the month, and in consequence many of the interior villages were completely cut off by floods. The weather improved latterly, and we are now having our normal monsoon.

**Crops.** The rice crop all over the District appears excellent, though a certain amount of damage must have been done by the torrential rains early in the month.

Cocoanut tree disease has appeared in a virulent form in and around Mangalore. A strong Committee of local gentlemen has been formed to consider measures to combat it.

**Price of Grain.** Rice is now at Rs. 7-4-0 to 7-10-0 per marah of 82 lbs.

**Labour.** All Tea Estate Labour and the majority of Coffee Estate has now left for the Estates, and our work at present consists chiefly in hurrying up laggards, and rounding up defaulters.

The Superintendent would like to bring to the notice of Estate Managers that many maistries are making a business of transferring labour agreements to other maistries no doubt for a consideration with the result that maistry No. 2 has not the foggiest idea who his warantee is. Not only is this illegal, but it gives the Department a lot of trouble trying to arrest defaulters on such warrants. Maistries should be warned against this practice which is becoming prevalent.

**HEALTH.** Is on the whole good.

**GENERAL.** Foot and mouth disease among cattle has appeared in the Sullia Agency jurisdiction.

F. W. WINTERBOTHAM,  
Superintendent.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

#### REPORT ON A TOUR MADE ON THE WEST COAST.

*(Continued from our last issue.)*

#### 3. DRAINAGE.

Much more attention might be paid on estates generally to drains and drainage systems. This has a bearing both upon soil erosion and crop diseases. The main drains too often lead straight down steep slopes with no precautions taken to break the force of the water flow or catch silt. The result is an ever widening gully resulting in an annual loss of land and plants. On one estate, I noted with pleasure that such main drains were revealed at the sides and paved with laterite blocks and though this must have cost a good deal, it was money well spent. On the Rubber Experiment Station at Tenmalai great attention has been paid to drains as a demonstration of what can be done. The sides have been built up, where the fall is steep they have been broken with steps, and silt pits have been dug which can be cleaned out from time to time. The cost of this work amounted to Rs. 11 per acre, and may be divided over a long period of years as the work is of a permanent character and only a small expenditure on upkeep and repairs will now be necessary. Similar work has been done on the Tea Experiment Station, where it has cost Rs. 10-9-0 per acre. The work was done in the off season, and the dry weather when labour can be spared. On another estate, I noticed that all the road side drains had been built up with a retaining wall on the field side. More than Rs. 12 per acre, are now being spent on some estates on quite useless weeding under old Rubber or attempts at clean weeding in tea. In both cases, the money would be better spent in putting the drains in order.

Drains should be contoured wherever possible, and no blind ones made. The soil removed from the drain should be thrown up hill, and spread out to form a level terrace. If thrown down hill, each time they are cleaned, their object in retaining the soil is not effected. If a green dressing is planted above each drain as sort of hedge a



terrace is soon formed, the force of the water flowing over the surface is broken and silt deposited. In one place, a somewhat novel form of cover crop was being planted along the upper side of all drains in the form of "chrysanthemum daisy" so often seen in gardens *Erigeron mucronatum*. This was proving a great success.

The effect of good drains on certain disease is a well established fact, and this point has been emphasised in the first part of the report. In the case of Red Rust, Mites, Brown Blight, and even Mosquito Blight, drainage is the first thing which should receive attention.

#### 4. BROWN AND GREY BLIGHT OF TEA.

There appears to be evidence to show that the fungi which cause Brown and Grey Blight of tea follow an attack of *Helopeltis*. Whether this is due to the general weakening of the constitution of the bushes, or whether it is a case of direct infection, or again whether both diseases are due to the vigour of the bush being reduced below par, I am not prepared to say. But I have noticed time and again that a bad attack of *Helopeltis* is followed by an attack of Brown or Grey Blight, and that if this is not dealt with a good deal of dying back of the younger wood takes place, and this may ultimately be followed by an attack of *Nectria* which necessitates collar pruning.

On one particular estate which I visited last November, there was then a very bad attack of Grey Blight in one field, and I recommended that all the diseased leaves should be picked off, collected, and burned, and that if necessary this treatment should be followed by spraying. I was gratified to find on this visit that my advice had been followed with excellent results. Though spraying had not been done, the collection of the leaves had resulted in a great recovery of the tea which had put on a lot of growth and had given a good yield during the hot weather. A young clearing which was infected in November had been entirely cleared up by this method.

#### 5. TAPPING.

A system of alternate day tapping, usually one cut on a half section, is growing in popularity and has much in its favour. This system can apparently be carried on over most of the year and together with the greatly increased tapping task introduced into some districts, is doing much to reduce the cost of production to such a figure that even with rubber at the present low prices its manufacture is a paying concern. On one estate, which is situated in a locality where the rainfall is lighter on the whole and much better distributed than on the majority of estates, this system has now been in vogue for several years. The result is not only high acre yields, but an extraordinary evenness of crop from month to month. Tapping is done for 11 months in the year, and six inches of bark is consumed per annum.

That production costs can be brought down enormously in the case of favourably situated estates is shown by the remarkable reduc-

tion in the case of Bukit Cloh and Bahru Selangor Companies. In 1920, the f. o. b. costs of the former were 10.56 d. per lb. and those of the latter 1s. 0½ d. In 1921, these figures were reduced to 6¾ d. and a little under 7 d. respectively. As a result of this reduction in the cost of production and the existence of favourable forward contracts both companies were able to pay dividends of 31¼ per cent, whereas Bukit Cloh paid only 8½ per cent in 1920 and Bahru Selangor nothing. When the forward contracts are finished, the position will not be so favourable, but both companies have this year got their costs down to 4½ d. per lb. f. o. b. Such costs are remarkable and very encouraging for if this can be done in the Federated Malay States, surely it can be done in South India. Such costs must have a bearing on the future price of rubber whether restriction is introduced or not.

#### 6. NEW USES FOR RUBBER.

The attempt which is being made on several estates to manufacture rubber soles for boots and shoes, sandals, etc, is deserving of, and I think will meet with success. One warning, however, should be issued if the market is to be captured, and that is that the idea of rough crepe soles with ridges for tennis shoes should be dropped at once, and only smooth rolled rubber used for the particular purpose. The rough sole gives too much grip and tears up the court, and were I secretary of a tennis club, I should bar it as I would nails. For golf it is all right and for ordinary wear, but not for tennis. Meanwhile, readers of Punch will no doubt have noticed in a fairly recent issue, two references to this "new use for rubber" in which some of us are interested just now. In Charivaria in a jibe at the smart young man's wear at the seaside this year, his outfit included "crepe rubber soled shoes" and there was the "Song of the Silent Sole" which might be adapted to advertisement purposes.

*"The wise take pattern from the sleuth.*

*"And walk with velvet tread."*

RUDOLPH D. ANSTEAD,

Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

#### THE LIME REQUIREMENT OF SOIL AND PLANT.

*Extracts from an article by Thos. D. Hall, B. A. M. S. (Agr.) Research Chemist, School of Agriculture and Experiment, Station, Potchefstroom, Published in "The Tropical agriculturalist."*

There is no doubt that there is a tendency among chemists to place too much emphasis on the lime requirement of the soil, and not enough on the individual needs of the particular crop which that soil is to grow. This is partly due to the fact that much investigation is still needed on the various crops of economic importance before they



can be definitely placed in any category on the basis of their lime requirement. There is at present a considerable disagreement with regard to the position of certain plants in the above respect.

It is not the object of the writer to discuss the usual points with regard to the value of lime in agriculture (this will be referred to only briefly), but to consider the subject from a less common point of view, and to show that often harm may be done and money lost by applying lime to the land when the crop to be grown is not taken into consideration. An excellent example of the harm an excess amount of lime can do has been furnished by GILE of the Porto Rico Station. The pine-apple crop on that island was suffering badly from chlorosis, and no organism could be found causing this trouble. As a lack of iron, by preventing the formation of chlorophyll, can also bring about chlorosis, the soil was analysed, but showed iron in abundance. Finally, it was discovered that on account of the excess of lime neutralizing the organic acids in the soil, the iron could not get into the soluble state in which the pine-apple plant most readily takes it up. GILE has since shown too that when plants which naturally grown on somewhat acid soils are planted on calcareous soils, they take up less iron and less potash and more lime. This derangement of the mineral nutrition also causes poorer yields.

SCHERFFIUS in South Africa has shown on several different experiment stations that maize and oats did not benefit from liming, whereas cotton and tobacco did, even with such small dressings as 250 and 500 lb. per acre. Although it is unwise to draw conclusions from any one year's fertilizer work, it is a fact that in some one-year fertilizer experiments with maize, conducted in co-operation with various farmers in the Transvaal maize areas, 2000 lb. of carbonate of lime appeared to have depressed the yield of maize.

From the Enterprise District of Southern Rhodesia, BASIL CHRISTIAN reports that he has recently tested the effect of lime on maize. He states: "I have applied agricultural lime without other manurial treatment at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton, 1 ton,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton, and two tons per acre, but in no case has it had any apparent beneficial effect on the maize crop."

The fact has been noted by investigators in South Africa that in general not nearly such good returns are obtained from lime alone as are reported from the humid sections of the northern hemisphere.

TROUG, of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, does not like the term "lime requirement" as applied to soils. He thinks the term should only be used with reference to the needs of the plants for lime, and that it would be more correct to speak of the degree of acidity of soils. It should be well understood, he says, that many acid soils are quite fertile if the right kind of crop is grown. TROUG further discusses the lime requirement as follows—

"The lime content of the plant and the rapidity of growth are two factors operating in the same direction with regard to the lime requirement of the plant: the higher the lime content and the quicker the rate of growth, the higher the lime requirement will be. On the other hand, the feeding power of the roots is a factor which works in the opposite direction: the greater the feeding power of the plant, the other two factors remaining constant, the less will be the lime requirement. The lime requirement of a plant is thus the result of three factors: two work in one direction and the third in the opposite direction.

"Cowpeas and buckwheat require a good deal of lime, and they grow quickly, but their root systems feed so vigorously that their lime requirement appears only medium. This is one reason why cowpeas will grow quite well on a comparatively acid soil on which lucerne will not become established. Lucerne has a high lime content and grows quickly, but its feeding capacity is low or medium, consequently it has a higher lime requirement. Oats is a good example of a crop with a low lime requirement. The oat plant has a low lime content and a rapid growth, but an exceedingly strong feeding power, consequently its lime requirement is low."

TRUOG has worked up the lime requirement of a great many crops and has given them numerical values on the above three factors. These figures will be given in the table following this discussion. TRUOG also remarks that "the main specific injury of soil acidity is that it prevents plants, especially those with a high lime requirement and relatively weak feeding power from getting lime from the soil at a sufficiently rapid rate to meet their needs."

#### THE USE OF ACID TOLERANT CROPS FOR ACID-LANDS.

A point of great importance to be remembered by the farmer and the chemist advising him is, that even if the soil in question is acid, the climatic conditions and the markets may be such that acid-tolerant crops can be profitably grown. The list of crop in Table I is in the main WHEELER'S and was worked out at the Rhode Island Experiment Station. Where the same crop is given in different columns, this means that there is not agreement between the different investigators e. g., some give the important crop peanuts as able to grow on poor acid soils others indicate that it requires lime. FRAPS of Texas says that the Spanish variety of peanut does not seem to require as much lime as the Virginia Bunch. The majority of reports the present writer has seen, however, indicate that the peanut is a crop that will grow quite well on sandy, acid soils. The majority of crops in Table I were tested on the acid soils of the Rhode Island Experiment Station. The crops that were benefited were not only larger than those on the unlimed soil, but were also ready to be marketed earlier. Tobacco not only made a better growth when limed, but gave



a lighter-coloured ash. WHEELER says further that although the total amount of potatoes was not greatly increased, the tubers of marketable size were, and the value of the crop was thus increased accordingly by liming. If the spores of the disease, potato "scab" are present, liming will produce a condition suitable for the development of this disease, unless the "seed" tubers have been treated with a fungicide. Lime, on the other hand, lessens or prevents the injury of certain other diseases such as "finger and toe" and "clubroot" to turnips and cabbages. GILE has assembled some interesting data as regards the effect of lime on various plants; the individual references will not be given, but may be obtained from his bulletin by those interested. Among other things, GILE states:—

"The amount of lime that plants will tolerate varies greatly with the different species and also with the different varieties of the same species. The chlorosis of grape vines on certain marly soils of France and Germany is probably the best known example of lime-induced chlorosis. Some American phyloxera-resistant stocks show chlorosis on soils containing as little as 5 per cent. of carbonate of lime; other American stocks are much more resistant, while certain native French stock and hybrids show no chlorosis on soils containing 50 per cent, to 70 per cent of lime carbonate".

PEROLD in 1913 investigated the grape soils of the Montagu, Robertson, and Worcester Districts, and found the lime content of eighty different samples much lower than he had expected from farmer's reports. He states; "In any case (with a few rare exceptions) there is not sufficient lime in the soils to cause any serious difficulty in reconstituting the local vineyards on suitable American stocks. Practically all the alluvial soils along the rivers in these districts contain too little lime to cause the grafted vines to suffer chlorosis."

GILE also says: "Yellow and blue lupines and serradella are very sensitive to lime, only tolerating about 2 per cent. of calcium carbonate in the soil, and their growth is greatly depressed in soils containing as little as 1 per cent. The varieties of lupines, *Lupinus mutabilis*, and *L. albus*, and *L. nanus*, however, are lime-loving plants, and resist even 30 per cent. of lime carbonate.

"A chlorosis of pear trees growing on a strongly calcareous soil of the Isle of Saint-Anne is reported by DAUTHENAY. In Hertfordshire, England, an orchard of various fruit trees planted on a soil overlying a chalk formation was strongly affected with chlorosis. The surface soil contained 13.53 per cent. of lime carbonate. Pears, peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots, and Cherries were among the trees affected. HILGARD reports a chlorosis of citrus trees growing on a marly subsoil containing 22 to 29 per cent. of lime carbonate."

It must be remembered that chlorosis is not a specific disease but is the result of some physiological disturbance in the plant. It

may be due to disease-causing organisms, but may also be due, as in the above cases, to excess of lime interfering with the proper mineral nutrition of the plant. When affected with chlorosis the normal green leaves turn light green to light yellow and sometimes almost white.

Should the favourite trees or shrubs of any of the readers be suffering from lime-induced chlorosis, it can be remedied by spraying the leaves once a week with a 2 per cent. solution of ferrous sulphate or ferric chloride, until the normal green colour is brought back. Burying a few crystals in contact with the feeding roots will also bring back the healthy green colour. Where a large area is affected as were certain pine-apple groves in Porto Rico, the only thing to do is to uproot the affected crop and plant another that will stand an excess of lime.

As far as the writer can ascertain, nowhere has as much work been done on the comparative response of crops to liming as at the Rhode Island Station.

The effect of slaked lime has been tried on many flowers, trees, small fruits, grasses, clovers, and miscellaneous farm crops over a period of more than twenty-two years. Unlimed sulphate of ammonia plots were compared with limed sulphate of ammonia, and the same comparison was made with regard to nitrate of soda plots. All plots received equal dressings of phosphates, potash, and even a little magnesium, so that the lime should not perhaps show good results entirely due to rendering available other necessary minerals.

The following table of miscellaneous crops, flowers, and trees has been compiled from the Rhode Island results, but as they had not classified the flowers, trees, small fruits, grasses, and clovers under their figure system (explained below), the writer had done so with some of them. A few additions have been made from other sources. The crops benefited most are preceded by the figure 3, those benefited in lesser degrees by the figures 2 and 1 respectively. Many crops are tolerant of a moderate degree of acidity, so that the addition of lime to such a soil resulted only in a small increase or decrease in yield; these are under the figure 0. A few crops do much better without lime; these have the figure 1. These figures are at the heads of the columns; those figures alongside individual crops refer to TRUOG's classification.

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TABLE I.

Classification of Miscellaneous Trees, Crops, and Plants according to their  
Response to Liming.

Crops Greatly Benefited by Lime 3	Crops Markedly Benefited by Lime 2	Crops showing Small Increase from Liming 1	Crops showing a little Increased or Decreased yield from Liming 0	Crops Injured by Lime 1
Asparagus	Australian salt bush	Aster	Apple	Blackberry
Aurora flower	Baby's breath	Brussels sprouts	Beans (all leguminous varieties and including castor bean)	Cranberry
Avens	Broccoli	Buckwheat	Blue false indigo	Chestnut
Balsam	Cabbage	Carnations	Canna	Cowpeas
Barley	Cauliflower (4)	Carrots	Chicory	Flax
Beet	Chard	Collards	Cowpea	Furze
Celery	Citrus	Chrysanthemum	Cress	Maritime pine (Pinus pinaster)
Clovers :—	Columbine	Cucumber	Cotton	Peanut
Alsike clover	Cotton	Dandelion	Evergreen	Norway spruce
Beerseem or Egyptian clover	Currant	Endive	Candytuft ( <i>Iberis sempervivens</i> )	Raspberry
White clover	Egg-plant	Kale	Flax	Serradella
Red ..	Emmer (Speltz)	Kohlrabi	Grape (Concord)	Scotch broom
Crimson ..	Grasses :—	Larkspur	Gooseberry	
Sweet ..	Kentucky blue	Lentils	Japanese Bellflower	
Yellow trefoil	Tall fescue	Lobelias	Japanese clover	
Candytuft (Iberis odorata)	Timothy	Meadows oats ( <i>Avena eliator</i> )	Lupines	
Foxglove	Orchard grass (Dactylis glomerata)	Oats	Marigold	
Gumbo (Okra)	Meadow fox-tail ( <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> )	Peas (all varieties)	Maize	
Goat's rue	Hay, Mixed	Petunia	Millet	
Leeks	Hemp (3)	Pumpkins	Nicotiana	
Lettuce	Horse radish	Quince (orange)	Parsley	
Lucerne	Lady's thumb	Rhubarb	Peach	
Mignonette	Marytinia	Sainfoin	Pear	
Nasturtium	Muskmelon (spanpek)	Sheep's fescue		
Onions	Mustard	Spurry		
	Peanut	Squash		
		Strawberry		
		Sugar-cane		
		Sunflower		
		Tares		

TABLE, I. (Continued),

Crops Greatly Benefited by Lime 3	Crops Markedly Benefited by Lime 2	Crops showing Small Increase from Liming 1	Crops showing little Increased or Decreased yield from Liming 0	Crops Injured by Lime -1
Parsnips Pepper Poppy Rowen Salsify or Oyster-plant Shirley poppy Spinach Sweet alyssum Tobacco	Rape Sneezewort Sunflower (double) ( <i>Helianthus decapetalus multifloris</i> ) Sorghum Sweet-william	Wheat	Pine-apple Plum Potato Radish Rhododendron Rice Rye Scarlet Sage ( <i>Saliva splendens</i> ) Sweet cassava Spurry Tick Seed Tomato Turnip Vetch Zinnia	

MESSRS. BARKER and BAER, of the Geneva Experiment Station, New York, have classified some of the plants in Table 1 in a different manner.

As this classification may be more convenient to some farmers and chemists, it has been decided to give it here.



TABLE II.

Comparative Response of Different Crops to Liming on a Basis  
of 100 for the yield on Unlimed Land.

Cranberry	20	Lima beans	120	Sweet clover	170
Sorrel	62	Popcorn	120	Lucerne	172
Watermelon	72	Turnip	122	Cabbage	180
Serradella	75	Rhubarb	123	Rape	200
Peanut	80	Raspberry	125	Horse radish	200
Cowpea	83	Soy beans	127	Broccoli	200
Maize	100	Sunflower	128	Muskmelon (Span speak)	225
Millet	100	Carrots	130	Cauliflower	230
Vetch	100	Brussels sprouts	130	Chard	230
Rye	100	Tomato	133	Currants	240
Radish	102	Cucumber	140	Onions	300+
Fruit trees	103	Barley	146	Parsnips	300+
Alsike clover	104	Sweet Maize	150	Spinach	300+
Gooseberry	104	Kale	150	Asparagus	300+
Grapes	105	Beans, red	150	Beets	300+
Potato	106	Red clover	156	Mangels	300+
Wax bean	106	Hay, mixed	156	Lettuce	300+
Strawberries	110	Khol rabi	158	Celery	300+
Squash	112	Peas	160	Salsify or Oyster-plant	300+
Blackberry	115	Sorghum	160		
Oats	120	Buckwheat	160		
Timothy	120	Pumpkin	163		

Maize farmers will notice with relief that this crop is shown both by American and South African results to be one that does not benefit much from lime. This is due no doubt to the fact that maize can take up a great deal of its nitrogen as ammonia, and does not need the lime to produce nitrates. Nearly all crops tolerant of acid soils can make good use of ammonia nitrogen.

The writer has shown recently that South African soils of very high lime requirement are still capable of good nitrification.

Many of the crops that require plenty of lime are those grown only on an intensive scale, and on these lime pays well. These lists, although far from being absolutely definite, will give the farmer and smallholder a very good idea of what crops it is necessary to lime.

(to be-continued.)

## CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, PEERMADE.

(*Incorporated.*)

MINUTES OF FIRST QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF  
CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT  
TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOW, PEERMADE, ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH,  
1922, AT 10 A. M.

*Present:*— Messrs. E. C. Sylvester (Chairman), J. E. Fraser, G. S. Napier Ford, R. F. Vinen, G. P. Farley, H. C. Westaway, A. B. Gall and W. A. J. Milner (Honorary Secretary).

The Minutes of the last General Meeting as well as those of the committee Meeting of 28—6—22 were taken as read and confirmed.

### 1. CORRESPONDENCE:—

(a) Read letter re. Tungamullay U. P. A. S. I. Cess. The Honourary Secretary was instructed to call-up U. P. A. S. I. extra cess of 2 annas per acre on Tungamullay Estate cardamom acreage.

(b) Read correspondence re. latest Holopeltis pamphlet published by Indian Tea Association. The Honorary Secretary was asked to order 6 pamphlets for Tungamullay, Chenkara, Stagbrook, and Haleyburia Estates.

(c) Read correspondence re. income tax on Tea Estates in Travancore. It was noted from Mr. Sylvester's letter of 4—7—22 that Estates in Travancore now appear to be liable to Income Tax on 25 percent of their profit.

(d) Read letter from Mr. Dunning re. a sub-agency of Labour Department at Trivandrum and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to enquire the probable cost of same.

Mr. Dunning's letter re. advertising increased plucking rate was also read and the Honorary Secretary's reply approved.

**TIMBER VALUES.** Read letter of 9th. June from Mr. Richardson of this subject outlining the Durbars latest proposals to settle this question. It was noted that no answer has been received from the Dewan so the Honorary Secretary's letter of 4—7—22, asking for certain additional information regarding same. The Honorary Secretary was requested to send a remainder.

**PLANTER'S BENEVOLENT FUND.** Under this heading the Honorary Secretary stated that only 18 members out of 28 circularised had so far paid in their subscription.

The Honorary Secretary was authorised to pay Rs. 25—0—0 to this fund as the Association's subscription. As regards subscription from Estates, it was thought that there would be much more likelihood of an appeal for these succeeding if it could be pointed out that every manager, superintendent and assistant in the District had personally subscribed to the fund.



Mr. Westaway kindly promised Rs. 25—0—0 on behalf Haileyburia Estate.

L. A. N. I. & S. I. N. A. The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that he had been able to collect Rs. 200—0—0 from members of this Association.

U. P. A. S. I. AGENDA. This was gone through item by item and the delegates were given the necessary instructions.

On the motion of Mr. Westaway, Mr. Fraser seconding, Mr. Milner was authorised to act on the General Committee, U. P. S. I., in place of Mr. J. S. Wilkie, for the Bangalore Meeting.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES. The Meeting was unanimously in favour of the proposed additional Rules X-XIV.

ROADS. Read correspondence from Chief Secretary to Government re Peermade Devikulam road, which the Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward to Mr. Roissier, Honorary Secretary Peermade Road Committee, to deal with.

U. P. A. S. I. TENNIS CUP. Proposed by Mr. Westaway and seconded by Mr. Sylvester:

"That the expenses of our representatives in U. P. A. S. I. Tennis cup matches should be met by the Association and that the account for same should be rendered to the sports Committee." *Carried.*

ANTI-HOOKWORM CAMPAIGN. Read letter from the U. P. A. S. I. dated 6th July 1922 re same which the Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward to Dr. Mc Cormack for report. In this connection all members are asked to note that particulars of a cheaper and more effective drug than thymol can be obtained from Dr. Mc Cormack.

AUDIT OF C. T. P. A. A/cs. Mr. Vadivel Pillay Quilon, was appointed as auditor for the year 1922-23.

The date of next meeting was fixed for Saturday October 21st at the Travellers' Bungalow.

OTHER BUSINESS. As regards expenses of players for other Tennis Cups than U. P. A. S. I., the opinion of the meeting was that this was a matter for the Sports Committee to deal with.

Mr. Napier Ford was elected a member of the same Committee in place of Mr. Haslam and Mr. Farley Secretary.

SALE OF TEA WASTE. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to circulate all members and non-members asking whether they were in favour of stopping the sale of this entirely in future, as proposed by the Indian Tea Association, in view of the great difficulty of preventing its being sold for human consumption.

It was to be recorded that all members present at the meeting were agreeable to the proposal, provided it was generally adopted.

The meeting then closed with the usual hearty vote of thanks to the Chair.

E. C. SYLVESTER,  
Chairman,

W. A. J. MILNER,  
Honorary Secretary.

## COFFEE EXPORT.

*(From the "MOMBASSA TIMES")*

We are indebted to Mr. C. G. Leftwich, Indian Trade Commissioner, Mombassa, for an exhaustive summary of Indian trade especially dealing with Sugar and Coffee. The figures dealing with the latter are extremely interesting and as pointed out by the Commissioner suggest the establishment of a big coffee export trade for East Africa to India and other places in the Orient.

## A.—IMPORTS INTO BRITISH INDIA BY SEA.

QUANTITY (CWTS)			VALUE—RS. (INDIAN.)		
1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
16,710	50,499	12,127	8,65,680	22,82,680	8,35,822
Average price C. I. F Bombay ...			Rs. 52	Rs. 45.2	Rs. 40 per cwt
B.—Re-EXPORTS FROM B. I.—			==£ 69	£ 60	£ 53 per ton
12,229	29,905	21,361	6,85,290	13,66,540	9,07,106
Average price F. O. B. Bombay			Rs. 56	Rs. 45.7	Rs. 42½ per cwt
C.—EXPORTS OF INDIAN COFFEE—			==£ 75	£ 61	£ 57 per ton
328,502	173,275	268,479	200,88,233	115,20,410	148,82,570
Average price F. O. B. Madras			Rs. 61	Rs. 66	Rs. 55 per cwt
and Bombay ...			==£ 81	£ 88	£ 73 per ton

Destination.	Quantity (cwts).	Value, £	Av. price per ton (f.o.b).
Arabia	781	2,222	£ 37
United Kingdom	60,107	131,160	63
Italian East Africa	7,980	23,858	60
Other British Possessions	810	2,425	60
French do	2	5	50
India	19,961	56,603	57
France	7,568	24,140	65
Union of South Africa	8,816	28,348	64
Zanzibar	537	1,580	59
Germany	805	2,472	60
Egypt	8,543	25,489	60
Tanganyika	36	102	57
Italy	1,820	5,562	61
Portuguese Possn.	2,739	7,730	55
U. S. America	835	2,364	56
Holland	8,210	21,173	51
Australia	70	195	56
Spain	232	565	56
Misc. Ports of Asia.	50	150	60
Total	129,872	398,159	61



From the figures in statement G, above it is clear that the U. K. was East Africa's best customer for Coffee having taken nearly half the total quantity exported at rather more the average price f. o. b. The next best customer was India which took over 15 per cent, but evidently of a cheaper quality though not quite the cheapest.

From the figures in statement A. B. D. and E. it appears that India regularly re-exports the greater part of all the coffee she imports, her chief customer for this entrepot trade having been Maskat and Oman. In the 3 years ending 31st March 1920 she imported 733 tons from the East Africa Protectorate at an average cost of £69 per ton and 1,614 tons from the Straits Settlements (which includes Labuan) at an average cost of £88 per ton. Enquiries will be made to ascertain if this is really higher grade coffee or merely more costly; if the latter then East Africa should have no difficulty in capturing this trade, which is almost entirely through Bombay (over 90 per cent). In the same period the re-exports to the British Empire amounted to 336 tons at an average price of £100 per ton, 132 tons to the Persian Gulf at £89, and 1287 tons to Maskat and Oman at £87. From these figures it looks as if the re-export trade in East Africa Coffee had been an extremely profitable one for the Bombay wholesale merchants. It is for our producers and export merchants to decide whether to expand their trade through Bombay or to develop a direct trade with Maskat and Oman. Statement G. indicates that at present there is no such trade. For the time being anyhow, it would seem as if the Bombay trade might be pushed with profit to both Bombay and East Africa.

## INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 18th July 1922.

REGULATION OF SALES.—At a general meeting of the London Committee held on 9th June the following resolution on this subject was passed:—

That for the weeks commencing 26th June and 3rd July members are recommended to print a quantity equivalent to not more than one-eighth part weekly of the unsold balance of their total crops for 1921, after the sale of the week commencing 19th June 1922. Further that any sales effected during the above-mentioned period (including sales in Calcutta either public or private) should be deducted from the quantity to be sold in public auction.

NEW SEASON'S TEAS.—It was recorded in the proceedings of the Committee meeting held on 23rd May that advice had been received from the London Association that they had issued a circular to their members recommending and asking members' views on a proposal that no new season's teas should be printed for public sale before August. A copy was now enclosed of a second circular issued to members on the subject, from which it appeared that the above mentioned proposal had been generally agreed to by members.

At the same time subsequent to the issue of the first circular it had been learnt that some Darjeeling teas were to be printed before August and while this was regretted the London Committee had agreed that it ought not to be allowed to interfere with the general recommendation.

**CANADIAN SALES TAX.**—In the proceedings of the Committee meeting held on 9th May it was recorded that the London Association had been represented on a deputation which waited on the High Commissioner for Canada to ask for the removal of the above tax, pointing out that it had done considerable damage to the export trade of the Port of London. The London letter of 22nd June now announced that the representations made in this connection had been successful and that in the recent budget proposals of the Canadian Minister for Finance a resolution was put down for approval by the Dominion Legislature, under which the duty paid values of tea purchased in bond in the United Kingdom will not include the amount of the customs duty payable on tea for consumption in the United Kingdom.

**INCOME TAX ON MEDICAL OFFICERS' SALARIES.**—As was recorded in the proceedings of the last Committee meeting a circular was issued to members explaining the understanding which had been come to between the Committee and the Commissioner of Income Tax, Bengal, in relation to the above subject. In this circular, too, members had been asked to record any objection they might have to the arrangement fixed up with the Commissioner and were asked to reply not later than 6th July. As no objections from members have been received it is presumed that all members are in agreement with the Committee's recommendations on the subject and it is therefore being taken that all Medical Associations are taking steps to deduct income tax from the amounts of remuneration they are periodically paying their medical officers.

A letter was to be sent to the Commissioner of Income Tax, Bengal, formulating to him this position, and a circular was to be issued to all members informing them that the proposed working arrangement was to be taken as accepted and in force.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

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(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore)

C. H. Brock, Managing Editor, Coimbatore.

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## INTER DISTRICT TENNIS.

The Semi-final match between the High Range and Central Travancore was played at Madura on the 6th August, and resulted in a win for the High Range by 5 points to nil. The following are the details of the games played :—

### SINGLES.

Mr. C. P. Gouldsbury (K. D. P. A.) beat Mr. Cantlay (C. T. P. A.)  
5 — 6; 6 — 3; 6 — 2.

Mr. A. H. Dixon (K. D. P. A.) beat Mr. H. Clark (C. T. P. A.)  
4 — 6; 6 — 4; 6 — 4.

### DOUBLES.

Messrs. Dixon and Gouldsbury (K. D. P. A.) beat Messrs. Cantlay and Clark (C. T. P. A.)  
2 — 6; 6 — 4; 6 — 3.

The other semi-final between the U. P. A. S. I., and the Wynaad was not played, and hence the Wynaad had a walk over.

There only now remains the final between the High Range and the Wynaad, the date for which has not yet been fixed, but it will probably be played in Coimbatore some time in either September or October.

## SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT  
THE MUNZERABAD CLUB, SAKLASPUR, ON 3—8—22.

*Present* : Messrs. R. G. T. Anderson, C. C. Couchman, Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D. S. O., Messrs. M. A. G. de Weck, F. M. Hamilton, Major A. L. Hill, O. B. E., M. C, Messrs. St. J. Hunt, C. Lake and E. M. Nixon.

*By Proxy* : Mr. E. W. Rutherford.

*Visitors* : Messrs. W. Davison and R. L. Piggott.

The Hon. Sec. was prevented by floods from attending;—Mr. Hamilton was elected to take his place for the Meeting.

Since the last Meeting, at which he was elected President, Col. Crawford had written that he regretted that he could not see his way to take up the appointment. Major Hill was voted to the Chair for the Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES : The new rules, Nos. X, XI, XII, XIII and XIV were agreed to and it was decided that in the "Definition of Planting Districts" appended to Rule XI the Arkalgud Taluk of the Hassan District should be added, the Hon. Sec. to approach the U. P. A. S. I. accordingly.

It was also decided that when the Inter-District Labour Rules are finally settled and passed by the U. P. A. S. I., printed copies should be obtained and sent to all members.

LABOUR RATES OF PAY ; The maxima for rates of pay, commission, etc., suggested by the South Indian Association in London were agreed to.

A letter in this connection from the Bababudin Planters' Association re closer co-operation with the Coorg Planters' Association was read and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to ask the former Association for further details and suggestions.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE U. P. A. S. I. : The Agenda of the Meeting was gone through and instructions drawn up for the Delegates.

The proposed re-organisation of the U. P. A. S. I. elicited considerable discussion and the following resolution proposed by Mr. Lake and Seconded by Mr. Hamilton was passed unanimously :—

"That this Association agrees to raise its subscription to the U. P. A. S. I. to Rs. 1/8 per acre if necessary, but protests against the various departments of the U. P. A. S. I. being split up or any of them being run on a voluntary basis."



**HASSAN MANURE SHED :** Mr. Anderson informed the Meeting that, although there had been some hitch in the matter of the agreement with the Railway Authorities, work had actually been begun.

**ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS :** A letter from the Executive Engineer re the Belur-Mudigere road and the steps taken to have it put into a better state of repair was read. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to him about the bad state of the Arehalli-Chikanahalli road from the 15th mile on to Chikanahalli, and about the long stretches of new metal on the Hassan-Saklasapur road and to ask that the steam roller should be employed on the latter as soon as possible.

**INCORPORATION :** The incorporation of the Association with effect from 31—5—22 was reported to the Meeting.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEMBER FOR THE DUSSERAH SESSION :** It was decided that an address be presented to the Dewan congratulating him on his appointment and that a reference to the Hassan-Mangalore Railway be made.

**"THE MADRAS MAIL" PLANTING AND PRODUCE SUPPLEMENT :** A letter from "The Madras Mail" drawing attention to this was read.

**HAYWARD MEMORIAL :** Mr. Lake informed the Meeting that he had received a letter from the late Mr. C. J. Hayward's father saying that the tablet had been erected and consecrated and enclosing a drawing of it.

**S. I. P. B. F. :** An Appeal on behalf of the Fund produced 5 new subscriptions.

**DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE U. P. A. S. I. :** A letter from Mr. Durham stating that he would be unable to attend the Meeting was read. Major Hill was nominated in his place, and Messrs. Hamilton and Lake as attending members.

**ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT :** Major Hill was elected for the remainder of the year. He thanked the Meeting for the honour it had done him and the Meeting then closed.

**Papers on the Table :** Letter No. Med/6 of 6—7—22 from the U. P. A. S. I. enclosing Madras Government Order No. 765. P. H., of 1—6—22-Hookworm.

Circular No. 1774/40—18 of 19—5—22 from the Resident in Mysore re formal commissions of I. A. R. O. Officers lying at A. H. Q.

Circular No. 2446/40/18 of 20—7—22 from the Resident in Mysore re decorations awarded to Officers of the I. A. R. O. lying at A. H. Q.

(Sd). FRANCIS M. HAMILTON,

Hon. Sec. to the Meeting.

A. L. HILL,

President.

A. DURHAM,  
Honorary Secretary.

**SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.**

The following are extracts from the Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, for the month of July 1922.

While in South Travancore, my attention was called to a disease which was killing back the branches of Orange and Lime trees to such an extent that in one small orchard the trees were nearly dead. I suspected at the time that this was due to Pink Disease (*Corticium*) which is an almost universal parasite. This opinion was confirmed by the Government Mycologist who kindly examined some material I brought back. Another fungus is present, but this is probably an after effect. The primary cause of the trouble is Pink Disease. The matter is not of great importance as these trees are not grown commercially, but only to supply fruit to private bungalows. The only possible remedy seems to be to cut out and burn all dead wood and to keep the trees small and well pruned out and to remove all attacked shoots at the first sign of the fungus. A spraying with Bordeaux Mixture at the end of the hot weather just before the first rains and again between monsoons might also give a certain amount of protection.

*Colletotrichum* : was reported during the month as doing damage on a coffee estate and causing the young berries to fall off till they "carpet the ground". Examination of the material by the Government Mycologist showed the presence of the fungus on the surface of the berries. The ripe cherry on this estate was attacked by this fungus last year, causing a stain on the bean which reduces its market value. Recommendations for its control were then made, but I have not been informed whether they were ever carried out.

*The Rubber Station at Mooply*: experienced very heavy rain during the month. This caused a certain amount of damage and was deleterious to the *Tephrosia Candida* which is rather susceptible to water logging for even short periods. Secondary leaf-fall is very bad, but was beginning to show signs of abatement at the end of the month. The growing tips of the young plants in the selection plots were attacked by *Phytophthora* despite the fact that they were sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture in May. The same thing has happened on an estate in South Travancore. The plants made growth after the spraying was done and it is these new growths unprotected by the spray which are attacked. Spraying will have to be done in future several times at short intervals to protect the new growth and ward off the attack. Line Canker was prevalent despite the use of Izal and the strength has been increased to 5 per cent and the tapped surface coated with tar and tallow and this has proved effective and has checked the attack since its adoption. Seed selection work has been continued and a nursery was started, but when the seeds were just sprouting they were stolen. This, at any rate, shows that interest is being taken in this work, even of an undesirable nature.



### THE LIME REQUIREMENT OF SOIL AND PLANT.

*Extracts from an article by Thos. D. Hall, B. A., M. S., (Agr) Research Chemist, School of Agriculture and Experiment Station, Potchefstroom, published in "The Tropical Agriculturist."*

*(Continued from our last issue.)*

The question that is almost sure to arise in the minds of those who have farmed under European condition is, "Why is it that liming does not pay as well out here as it does in the old country"? Well, there are many reasons.

(1) Our soils are, generally speaking, not so acid as those of the humid sections of the northern hemisphere. A large part of our country is semi-arid, and there is much less leaching of soluble minerals from the soil under a low rainfall, so that our lime is not so quickly lost. Rothamsted figures give English losses of carbonate of lime per acre to be around 800 lb., and some American figures from Illinois are also in that vicinity. No South African figures are available, but there is every probability that in most parts of the Union they will be considerably lower. Where irrigation is, practised in our semi-arid districts, the problem is likely to be one of too much alkali and not too little; in other words, of brak instead of sour soils.

From some work done by the writer and his assistants during the past two years on 127 soils, mostly of Transvaal origin, it was found that 48 per cent were alkaline. These required no lime, but were not brak. Of the remaining 52 per cent. 75 per cent. had a lime requirement of less than 3,000 lb. per acre. This is not high when it is remembered that 2,000-4,000 lb. per acre is a dressing commonly advocated in northern countries.

(2) Another very important reason why lime alone does not generally pay is that 90 per cent. of our soils are deficient in phosphates, and until this universal shortcoming is remedied, little benefit can be expected from liming. Lime is, of course, much cheaper than phosphate, and that is the reason so many farmers buy it. They must realize, however, that it cannot take the place of phosphates, although it may often be used profitably in conjunction with superphosphate, and that for all the good it will do alone it is very expensive compared with the benefits derived from phosphates.

(3) Although often analyses have shown the total lime content of a soil to be low enough for a soil to be classed as acid by certain standards, yet the Veitch lime requirement method may show the soil is quite "sweet" i. e., it needs no lime for neutralizing acidity. This often means that owing to little leaching from the soil other bases are keeping it sweet.

(4) The question will be naturally asked, "Does not lime benefit the soil from the biological standpoint?" It undoubtedly does and stimulates nitrogen fixation and nitrification. But here again we

touch the phosphate deficiency: what will it profit a farmer to have increased the supply of available nitrogen in his soil by adding lime, if his phosphate is still deficient? Nothing, or very little at most, for the crop will not be growing sufficiently well to make use of the extra nitrates. The writer has shown that the soils on the Potchefstroom Experiment Station increased greatly in nitrate content when heavily limed. One soil from a dry-land field had a lime requirement of 600 lb. per acre, while the other was from irrigated land that had a slightly alkaline reaction due to the long use of lime-impregnated water, but both showed increased nitrification from liming. In spite of this stimulus to the micro-organisms, this practice cannot be considered economical unless the usual phosphate deficiency is remedied.

A past student of this institution sent us some of his soil for investigation. It was a nice loam with plenty of organic matter, and he stated that with a mixture of kraal manure and 400 lb. of superphosphate he had, under his good rainfall of 35 inches to 40 inches, produced 84 bags of potatoes per acre. This is a good example of how well potatoes do on acid soil. This soil had a lime requirement of 9,000 lb. of carbonate of lime per acre to be satisfied before it would be neutral. The writer incubated several portions of this soil alone and with nitrogenous fertilizers, and found that in a month at 28° to 30° C. 1.56 per cent. of the soil's nitrogen had been changed to nitrates. This may not sound high, but he has not found more than 2 to 5 per cent. of the soil's nitrogen to be nitrified under these conditions, even with soils containing plenty of carbonate of lime. Let us consider this in another way: 1.56 per cent. of the total soil's nitrogen means that 118.5 lb. of soluble nitrogen were produced in one month under suitable conditions of temperature and moisture on an acre of land one foot deep. As there is removed from an acre by 84 bags of potatoes only around 63 lb. of nitrogen, this means there would be 55 lb. of nitrogen to spare. Remember that soluble nitrogen at the rate of 118 lb. per acre foot was produced in a very sour soil to which no lime had been added. Lime on this soil might greatly stimulate nitrification, but there does not seem much likelihood of it paying on a potato or maize crop where there is much activity without it.

An even more acid soil, one with lime requirement of 14,400 lb. per acre, showed nitrification equally as good as in the one just discussed, also without the addition of any base.

MANNS and COHEN, of the Delaware Experiment Station, have recently shown that nodule organisms could live in a muck humus soil having a requirement of 8,938 lb. of carbonate of lime per acre, and also that four legumes, lucerne, red clover, soy beans, and cowpeas, made good growth and took on good inoculation without the addition of any bases.

The writer is further investigating the nitrifying power of some very acid soils, as he is convinced that lime must be advised and



used with greater care than is generally being done to-day. There is also need of more investigation as to what plants can take up their nitrogen as ammonia. There are still one or two points which may be discussed as there are recent developments in this field.

#### THE FINENESS OF GROUND LIMESTONE.

Although it is necessary to grind very finely fertilizers like bone dust, basic slag, and rock phosphate, so they will become soluble and available to the plant more easily, investigations over a period of some years in Canada and America seem to indicate very definitely that it is not necessary that limestone be so finely ground, as then it is too readily soluble, and lost from the soil in drainage-water too easily. That phosphates of the above fertilizers, on the other hand are not lost in drainage to any extent is an established fact. HARCOURT, of Ontario, in the basis of his experiments on fineness, concludes that if limestone is ground so that the largest particles are the size of flax seed; it gives the best results. STEWART and WYATT in Illinois found that limestone ground to pass  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch mesh sieve is sufficiently fine for use on the land. It costs less for the manufacturers to produce and is more economical for the farmer. There is quite enough fine material produced in grinding the limestone to pass a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch mesh screen to satisfy the immediate needs of the soil, and the larger portions become available more gradually and are not lost so rapidly as in the case with very finely ground limestone.

#### THE LIME MAGNESIA RATION.

Farmers have often been told that unless they practice liming in order to keep the lime in the soil slightly in excess of the magnesium the toxic effect of the latter will depress crop yield. It has also been stated that different lime-magnesia ration. The very favourable reports of applying ground dolomite or magnesium limestone to the land of recent years should be sufficient to put the farmer's mind at rest on that score. LIPMAN and BLAIR, of New Jersey, proved in a trial extending over several years that there was a slight gain in favour of magnesian limestone. STEWART and WYATT, of Illinois, state that magnesian limestone can be used successfully on acid soils. It is slightly more effective than high calcium limestone in neutralizing the soil acidity, is more durable, and has no injurious effects on crop yields. SCHOLLENBERGER and AMES at Wooster, Ohio, found that in general dolomite limestone ground to different degrees of fineness and applied to the soil suffered a less degree decomposition than corresponding applications of a high calcium stone, but that crop yields from small plots gave no consistent indications of superiority of either form of stone.

LIPMAN, of California, has reviewed the investigations on this subject very thoroughly in his paper. "A Critique of the Hypothesis of the Lime Magnesia Ratio." He goes over the whole field of investigations in this subject very carefully, and quotes twenty-five investigations, including LOWE's own papers and those of his co-workers and pupils that give data in accordance with LOWE's idea of

the lime magnesia ratio, and twenty-six papers that give negative and ten investigations that give different results. LIPMAN is inclined to think that the use of basic magnesium carbonate in the tests has been the cause of all the trouble. *Farmers are warned, however, against using burned magnesium limestone in the form of blue lime, for magnesia in this caustic form is toxic to plants.* LIPMAN found that under Californian conditions 1 and 2 per cent. of magnesium carbonate ( $12\frac{1}{2}$  to 25 tons per acre, 9 inches of soil), was distinctly toxic to citrus trees, and that the addition of lime up to 10 per cent. (125 tons) to the acre did not correct this toxicity. According to the theory of the lime magnesia ratio, the toxicity should have been destroyed by excess of lime. On the other hand, lime added to the soil up to 10 per cent. did not harm citrus trees at all. Regarding the practical bearing of the question LIPMAN says: "Viewing the question of the lime magnesia ratio in its practical aspects and bearing, one is at once impressed with the hopelessness, in general farming particularly, of attempting to maintain a proper lime magnesia ratio in soils. Crops like buckwheat, barley, oats and legumes growing in rotation would have to have their lime magnesia ratio in the soil constantly changed, a wholly irrational practice. It has been tried in California orchards with unfavourable results."

It would seem from the above reviews of the lime magnesia work and from the results of practical field trials that, although 48 per cent of the Transvaal soils contain more magnesia than lime, there is no need for the practical farmer to bother about this state of affairs. In addition to the above proofs, HOPKINS in Illinois had to add magnesium carbonate in amounts up to ten tons per acre before it became toxic to a wheat crop. The strongest point against the lime magnesia ratio is that in farm practice it would be well-nigh impossible to balance the ratio for crops growing on the same land. Nor are there any data to show that this would be a profitable procedure.

#### A SUMMARY, INCLUDING SOME FURTHER FACTS ON LIMING.

1 Lime is an essential element of nutrition for plant of all kinds, but some kinds, e. g., lucerne, beets, and cauliflower, require it in greater quantity and in a more available condition for their physiological processes than many others. For some plants lime is deleterious in excess. Botanists have classified plants as calciphiles, or lime-lovers, and calciphobes or calcifuges, or lime-haters, on the basis of their normal relation to the lime content of the soil. Many species seem indifferent. It is well to bear this in mind and to consider the lime requirements of the crop before applying lime.

2 Lime changes the reaction of an acid soil to a neutral or alkaline one. This affects the yield of many crops favourably, but not all. Soil acidity may be due to an accumulation of mineral acid from prolonged fertilizing with such substance as sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate, or to organic acids from the decomposition of vegetable matter. This latter form disappears by cultivation which allows oxidation to proceed. This form of acidity LYON and FIPPIN call positive acidity, negative on the other hand, they designate as an



absence of bases such as lime and magnesium carbonate from the soil. It has been definitely proved that aluminium salts are toxic to plants, and the repressed growth may often be due to this position in a sour soil or it may be due to free acids or absent bases. Aluminium salts are much more toxic to barley than rye. It has been demonstrated that a very acid soil containing aluminium salts has prevented the growth of lettuce, but when liberally dressed with super-phosphate had combined with the deleterious aluminium salts. This would be an expensive way in farm practice, however, of overcoming the troubles. It would be best to apply lime first and then the superphosphate in smaller quantities.

3 Lime brings about chemical changes and reactions among the mineral constituents of the soil and affects their solubilities. It helps to make available additional mineral plant foods. This fact applies particularly to burnt lime and water slaked lime. Carbonate of lime has little effect in that direction.

4 Lime improves the physical condition of heavy clay soils. The flocculating effect of burnt or slaked lime has been well established. Agricultural lime or carbonate of lime, which is ground limestone benefits a heavy soil very slightly physically. The flocculating effect of ground limestone is practically *nil*. For the flocculating of heavy lands and making them easier to plough, big dressing are required. If the value of the land warrants them, 2 to 4 tons per acre is less than one ounce per square foot of surface. From the point of view of cost it will be cheaper to add organic matter. It is also better practice in general.

5 The supposed binding effect on sandy soils has not yet been definitely established.

6 There is no doubt that lime accelerates nitrification, but if there is a phosphatic deficiency, this production of much available nitrogen will not benefit the plant much, and will be an unprofitable investment from a monetary point of view.

7 Lime in some cases prevents or modifies the diseases like "club root" or "finger-and-toe," and in other cases it accentuates the disease as in scab on potatoes.

8 Limestone can be coarsely ground and still give the best results for the farmer and decrease the cost of production to the manufacturer.

9 The best and cheapest form of lime to use is ground limestone, usually called agricultural lime.

10 The lime magnesia ratio, from present knowledge, the farmer need not bother his head about.

11 If it is intended to grow lime-loving crops it is necessary to know the lime requirement of the soil. This aspect has been treated by the writer in the JOURNAL OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS.

12 Lime can be applied from a wagon by a fertilizer attachment or in any manner found most convenient. There are also regular lime-spreading machines.

13 Lime can be applied when it suits the farmer—a good time is after ploughing—so that it can be harrowed into the surface soil. It is best not ploughed under and it is then more quickly lost.

14 The application needed depends on the lime requirement of the soil and of the crop to be grown, and it may be anything from 100 to 10,000 lb. to the acre. Very heavy dressings do not pay for most crops. With the present price of land in South Africa, it is more economical for the owner to buy new land if his is very sour, or to grow crops adapted to sour soils.

15 It might, however, pay to lime heavily when growing a crop like tobacco which brings in a large return per acre, when it would not be profitable if barley were to be grown on that soil.

16 If on a very acid soil superphosphate is to be used—the cheapest form of phosphate at the time of writing—then it will pay to apply some lime as well so as to keep the water-soluble phosphate from being made insoluble by iron and aluminium. A mixture of equal parts of superphosphate and bone-meal is, also good for an acid soil. The author knows of cases where excellent results have been obtained by mixing together lime and superphosphate just before application to the land. This is contrary to all rules of mixing fertilizers, as it certainly causes reversion in the superphosphate to the less soluble form. In many cases, however, he believes it preferable to do this than to apply the superphosphate to an acid soil where it is likely to combine with iron and aluminium compounds and form phosphates much less soluble and of less value than reverted phosphate of lime. Especially is this the case when labour cannot be spared to apply lime and superphosphate separately.

17 Carbonate of lime can in a dry state be mixed with all other fertilizers without doing much harm, but is well always to do such mixing just before the fertilizers is to be applied to the land. The caustic forms of lime must not, even in a dry state, be mixed with ammonium sulphate or organic nitrogenous fertilizers like guano, meat-meal and blood-meal.

18 The farmer must remember that lime, although cheap, cannot replace phosphates, potash or nitrogen.

19 Whereas phosphates pay on all soils, lime must be used with discretion, and with many crops is not necessary.

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## MARKET REPORT.

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co, Ltd. quote from Messrs. Leslie & Anderson's Report dated 20th July:—

*Coffee*: The offerings at Public Auctions have not been heavy this week; a large proportion, however, failed to meet with competition and had to be withdrawn. As usual this season of the year many Buyers are away on holiday; meanwhile, however, consumption goes on, enabling the Trade to dispose of their purchases, which may tend to a more lively business later on. At present we are almost entirely dependent on our Home Trade business as the financial position of the continent makes Trade in that direction almost non-existent.

*Cardamoms*: The market continues more or less idle.

*Tea*: Offerings this week are much on a par with those of last. A somewhat better tone prevailed than at last week's auction, bidding being more general, but no material change in values has taken place, though prices at the close are certainly firmer.

*Rubber*: During the week there was a poor demand for all positions and there has been no further news of an agreement with the Dutch regarding restriction of crops. Producing companies (both here and in Holland) have been selling moderately as far ahead as September and in some cases up to December. A small business has been done in January/March or April/June.

Stock in London has risen slightly and is now quoted at 72052 tons. Spot Standard qualities are now quoted at 7½ d. per lb.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The 'Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinions of its correspondents.)*

Dear Sir,

I have been very much interested in reading the various treatises and pamphlets that are published on the subject of Helopeltis. This very troublesome scourge is on the increase and despite all efforts, no solution has yet been arrived at as to a means of getting rid of it.

Amongst all the discoveries, recently made, as to its habits, one thing appears to be quite overlooked, and it seems to me that this one fact is most important in fighting it. Nowhere in anything that I have read has any serious attention been paid to the favourite breeding places of these creatures, one hears that it is found in the jungle and that it comes from there to the tea, but I have seen no explanation as to why in the jungle we find no such wholesale destruction as in the tea.

It is perfectly true that it comes from the jungle, any amount of plants are attacked there, as any one can see who looks, but I have never seen the same serious attacks there as in tea, and there must be some reason for this, one finds at first only one or two bites in a

field, these increase rapidly until the whole field is black in a very short time. Consequently there must be something in tea which encourages it to breed, or it must find that tea is a very suitable breeding place for it.

My experience of *Helopeltis*, in point of view of time, is very slight, a little more than two years, but in point of numbers as great as most people, as this Estate is absolutely black with it at certain times, not so black now as it was, and I have hopes of making it still less so in course of time.

This fact is most important I consider in dealing with the pest and I therefore, in the interests of those who are concerned in finding a cure, am writing this and trust that you will be so good as to make it public.

The reason why *Helopeltis* makes such very good ravages in the tea is that it finds there a suitable breeding place. The young shoots are succulent and easy for the depositing of the eggs; but you will find as a counter to this, if you look, that if you abandon a field because *helopeltis* is so bad, the attack decreases and it begins to flush again, although not very much, and in tea that is grown up you will find that the attacks are not so bad. Let a bush which has been almost destroyed run up and it will grow strong again, and *helopeltis* will leave it alone.

The reason of this is that the place where they lay their eggs is not in the stalks with buds, but in the stalks which are left after plucking; these are excellent places because they do not have quite so much sap as the growing stalks, and the little larvae are able to eat their way out at the seeds.

This again leads me on to a second discovery, if tea is allowed to get weak and knotty *helopeltis* attacks are much stronger than if it is strong and sappy. On this estate, on account of the *helopeltis*, pruning has been done very lightly, and in consequence the bushes are very knotty and weak. When they are pruned very hard as I have had to do, the growth is slow and for a start less vigorous and in consequence the attacks are worse, at first, but as the bushes, by careful pruning cleanly done, get stronger the attacks grow less. Therefore this pest does not like too much sap in the shoots in which it lays its eggs. It is therefore obvious that to fight *helopeltis*, clean pruning and good strong bushes are necessary, and I feel convinced that by cultivation and manuring the pest can be got in hand, and that, only, is the right way of dealing with it. It is a matter of patience and time of course, but with such a serious thing as this all the patience, time and money expended are well worth while.

Trusting that this letter is not too long and that it will prove of real use to the planting community.

Yours truly,  
R. J. McMULLIN  
Arnakul Estate.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

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## THE U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1922.

The twenty ninth Annual General Meeting of the United Planter's Association of Southern India, opened at the Mayo Hall, Bangalore on Monday, 21st August, and continued until the afternoon of Thursday the 24th. The following Resolutions were carried,—

### *Inter-District Sports.*

1. That the Inter-District Tennis be played between November and May.

2. That the active members of the Executive Committee for Tea, Coffee and Rubber form the Sports Committee.

### *Labour Department.*

3. That the Executive Committee be asked to consider whether it would not be possible to reduce the work of debt collecting and service of warrants in order to release funds for increasing the work of obtaining new connections.

*The Planting Member.*

4. That such portion of the expenses of the Planting Member, which are incurred whilst representing planting interests, as are not borne by Government shall be met by the U. P. A. S. I.

*Duties and Taxes.*

5. This Association holds that the classification by the Imperial Finance Minister of motor vehicles and accessories as luxuries is erroneous and strongly urges that the import duty on the same may be reduced.

*Hassan-Mangalore Railway.*

6. In view of the fact that the maximum usefulness of the Mysore Railway system and developement of the State generally will never be attained until direct communication from Hassan to Mangalore and the West Coast is established, this Association once again urges the authorities concerned to construct this very necessary line as early as possible.

*Roads & Communications.*

7. That the matter of improvement in the main outlet roads of planting Districts to seaports and rail heads be pressed upon and kept before the Governments concerned. This resolution refers particularly to the strengthening of bridges and culverts.

8. That the U. P. A. S. I. be requested to approach Government with regard to keeping the Boondh Ghat in repair, as this is a most important outlet for Coffee and other supplies for a large acreage in the north of Mysore.

9. That the U. P. A. S. I. draw the attention of the Government to the deplorable condition of the roads in South Malabar and request that immediate steps be taken to improve these roads with a view to the reconstruction of the devastated area-if necessary employing Moplah Prisoners.

*U. B. A. The Upasi Buying Agency.*

10. That the question of concessions on passage rates be taken up by the Upasi Buying Agency with a view to obtaining them for all members of the Buying Agency.

*War Risk Insurance.*

11. That the South Indian Association in London be asked to urge the Banks to cease on insisting that produce be covered against War Risks.



*Shipping Rates.*

12. That the Clan-Ellerman Lines be approached with a view to the reduction of the freight on Tea.

*Standardisation of Rates.*

13. That the Schedules drawn up by the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. be forwarded to the South Indian Association in London.

*Planting Directory.*

14. That a Directory of Estates, with names in English and the vernacular be brought up to date and published.

*Statistics.*

15. This Association emphasizes the necessity of legislation being passed making the rendering of statistics compulsory and asks for an early reply to their resolution to this effect passed at the last Annual Meeting and duly forwarded to Government.

16. That a similar request be made to the Governments of Mysore, Travancore and Cochin.

*Rates of Pay.*

17. That the Director of the Labour Department be instructed to immediately report to District Associations any increase offered or paid over any schedule rates for the District concerned, that may come to his cognisance.

*Indian Tea Cess.*

18. That this Association authorise their member on the Indian Tea Cess Committee to agree on their behalf to the suggested increase in the Tea Cess, provided in his opinion the proposed campaign of work is acceptable.

*Caffeine.*

19. That the Executive Committee be empowered to investigate and report on the commercial possibilities of the scheme for manufacture of caffeine submitted by the Government Cordite Factory.

*Articles of Association.*

20. That Article of Association No. 6 be altered to allow of the following subscriptions being levied:—

TEA	...	...	...	Rs.	2—4—0	per acre.
COFFEE	...	...	...		1—8—0	„
RUBBER & MINOR PRODUCTS					0—14—0	„

Further that the Executive Committee be asked to frame Rules to enable them:— (a) To extend personal membership (b) to arrange for Estates being directly liable to the U. P. A. S. I. instead of to District Associations,

*Enquiry Commission.*

21. That this Association records their hearty thanks to the members of the Labour Commission for their splendid work on behalf of their fellow planters.

*New Uses of Rubber.*

22. That this meeting recommends to the local Branch of the Rubber Growers' Association that the council in London be approached and asked to make a grant towards the cost of purchasing the equipment necessary to enable Mr. Ashplant to continue the experiments referred to in his address yesterday and demonstrate the further commercial possibilities of rubber.

*Damage caused by Moplahs on Rubber Estates.*

23. That the recommendation of the Executive Committee, in regards to the remission of six months subscription due by the five estates in the Ernad Taluc, be adopted.

*Benevolent Fund.*

24. That the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund be registered as an Incorporated society.

25. That in connection with the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund, when incorporated, the voting powers of members shall be one vote per Rs. 10 of current subscriptions by or through them and that of Patrons and Life Members be 100 and 20 votes respectively, which latter shall be credited to the District Associations through which the Patrons and Life Members subscribed.

26. That when the Fund is incorporated, the Executive Committee, for the time being, of the U. P. A. S. I. be ex-officio trustees of the Fund, with full power to administer it.

*International Labour Conference.*

27. In view of the Conventions and Recommendations passed at the International Labour Conference, Geneva, 1921, regarding Agricultural Labourers, this Association recommends all District Associations affiliated here to voluntarily guarantee:—

- (i) All women employees a period of rest, before and after, child birth as laid down in the rule applicable to women employees in Government employ.
- (ii) All women and young persons between 14 and 18 employed at least 9 hours consecutive rest in 24.
- (iii) All children under 14 employed at least ten hours consecutive rest in 24.
- (iv) That no children under 14 shall be employed during the hours fixed for school attendance or at any time in such a way as to prejudice their attendance at school,



*The "Planters' Chronicle"*

28. That the "Planters' Chronicle" be continued as at present.

*The Buying Agency.*

29. That the funds and accounts of the Upasi Buying Agency be brought into the Banking accounts and Books of the U. P. A. S. I. and that the General Committee frame Rules for controlling and conducting the business of the Agency.

*Additional Rule drafted by general Committee.*

30. That in view of the arrangement regarding subscriptions due by Rubber Estates proposed by the Executive Committee and the engagement entered into with the Government of Madras as to postponement of payment of cost of the Mundakayam Mycologist Staff this rule be not confirmed.

*Madras Government Finance.*

31. That in view of the fact that the levy of Rs. 348 lakhs per annum made on the Madras Presidency by the Government of India is out of all proportion to the resources of the Presidency and is consequently hindering the developement of the Presidency this Association do ask the Government of Madras and the Legislative Assembly to take early action to get it reduced.

*Employers' Federation of Southern India.*

32. That the Executive Committee be requested to accept the offer of affiliation with the Employers' Federation of Southern India.

*Labour Rules.*

33. That the Rules passed by the General Committee on the 21st inst. be confirmed.

*Mr. J. A. Richardson.*

34. That Mr. J. A. Richardson be asked to sit for his portrait and that the portrait be hung in the Offices of the U. P. A. S. I.

*Budget 1922-1923.*

35. That the following items be added to the Budget—

Expenses of Planting Member	...	Rs. 1,000
Employers' Federation	... ..	250
Mr. Richardson's Portrait	... ..	250
Incorporation of Benevolent Fund	...	250

Rupces 1,750

Note. At this stage Messrs J. J. Murphy and J. Mackie informed the Chairman that they would jointly meet the cost incurred account registration of the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund as an incorporated body.

*Auditors.*

36. That Messrs Fraser & Ross be re-elected Auditors for the current year at the same remuneration as heretofore.

*Chairman.*

Mr. H. L. Pinches was re-elected Chairman,

### GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE U. P. A. S. I.

At a Meeting of the General Committee held on 24th August after close of the Annual General Meeting the following Executive Committee were elected.

	<i>Active</i>	<i>In Waiting</i>
For TEA	Mr. J. Hatton Robinson	Mr. R. Fowke
„ COFFEE	Mr. E. W. Fowke	Mr. J. Aird
„ RUBBER	Mr. J. J. Murphy	Mr. A. C. Morrell

### COORG PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

#### MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOW, SIDAPUR, AUGUST 7TH.

PRESENT;— Messrs Tipping (Chairman) Pearse, Mann, Bracken, Nicolls, Macrae, Gerrard, Schofield, Shaw, Wright W. R., Wright A. J., Maclean & Egerton (Hon. Secretary),

1. NOTICE calling the Meeting was read.
2. PROCEEDINGS of last meeting were confirmed.
3. THE UPASI AGENDA was fully discussed and delegates instructed.

4. Mr. Ball's letter regarding his interview with Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C. I. E., C. B. E., was read and a vote of thanks passed for the trouble he had taken and the very lucid account of the interview.

5. DRAFT RULES OF THE MADRAS COFFEE STEALING PREVENTION ACT were read. It was resolved to suggest to Government that the proposed registers and Returns should be rendered by all persons owning or managing one acre instead of 10 as proposed.

6. SAWYERS RATES. were discussed with a view to paying a uniform rate throughout the District. It was resolved that a circular be sent round stating the rates agreed upon.

7. CART RATES. As contracts have been made in Sidapur & Pollibetta at considerably lower rates than those prevailing last year, it was resolved that a circular be sent round stating the rates agreed upon.

8. INCORPORATION. The Hon. Sec. said that all papers had been duly signed and been sent to Madras for completion.

9. A vote of thanks to the chair closed the meeting.

W. EGERTON, HONORARY SECRETARY.



**NILGIRI-WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT GUDALUR ON MONDAY 14TH, AUGUST 1922 AT 11-30 A. M.

PRESENT:— Messrs. J. Aird (Chairman), R. Fowke (Vice Chairman), G. W. Fulcher, R. Bently, J. S. Nicolls, J. B. Adkins, J. W. G. Bisset, F. C. Scott, B. J. Blackett, G. M. Oakes, P. Naylor, and F. W. F. Fletcher (Honorary Secretary).

Visitors:— Messrs W. S. Scott and — Smith.

The Proceedings of the last Meeting were confirmed.

INCORPORATION. The Honorary Secretary said he had received the Certificate of Incorporation from the Assistant Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Coimbatore.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES. The Honorary Secretary read letter No. 1864 dated 14th. June 1922 from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. He said this cleared up the misunderstanding with regard to Rule X, and it remained for the Association to decide whether it would accept six months notice of any increase in rates, as provided in the Resolution passed at the last U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting (now called Rule X), or two months notice as suggested by the South Indian Association, London. He added that the point would come up again under the next item on the Agenda, and might be more conveniently discussed under that head.

STANDARDISATION OF WAGES. In the light of the explanation afforded in the letter referred to above, Schedule III embodied in letter No. 225 dated 10th, April 1922 from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I., which contains the Rules suggested for adoption by the N-W. P. A., was again taken up. Discussion centered round proposal 4 made by the South Indian Association. The Chairman emphasised the fact that these Rules were not intended to limit the power of members to enhance wages in the slightest degree, and that if they were adopted, every member would still be a perfectly free agent in this regard. The only object aimed at was to ensure that if any member *did* decide to raise rates, his fellow planters should have timely notice of his intention. That was a consummation devoutly to be wished, for when an increase in wages was sprung on the District, ill feeling was inevitable. Ultimately, on being put to the vote, the proposals were carried, but unfortunately not unanimously.

Mr. Nicolls pointed out that one Association had been given a higher maximum than the N-W. P. A. (names and figures are omitted in response to the request made in para 2 of the Secretary's letter No. 225 dated 10th April 1922). He said the possibility of this Association recruiting coolies in the areas from which our labour was drawn should not be overlooked, and he thought an assurance should be obtained from the Association in question that if at any time it entered into competition with us, it would not offer higher rates than our own to coolies enlisted in our recruiting sphere. Our delegates were instructed to bring this point up at the U. P. A. S. I. Meeting under item 28 of the Agenda.

**FACTORY ACT.** Mr. Nicolls read a letter he had received from the Chief Inspector of Factories. Both he and Mr. Adkins pointed out that several of the alterations and additions required would be quite impossible in a Tea Factory, and the latter added that these found no place in the Ceylon Factory Regulations. He kindly undertook to wire for a copy of these Regulations for the guidance of our delegates at the coming UPASI Meeting. The Honorary Secretary said that some, if not all, of the requirements to which exception was taken fell under sections 21, 22, 27 and 28 of the Act, and he gathered from the report of the interview with the Chief Inspector of Factories, dated 6th. July and issued by the Secretary UPASI, that exemption from these requirements could be obtained without difficulty. Our delegates were instructed to bring up the question under item 15 of the Agenda.

**POST OFFICE FOR OUCHTERLONY VALLEY.** Mr. Aird read his correspondence with the postal officials on this subject, and said that he had no objection to the Post Office being transferred to New Hope Estate or some other central and convenient locality, provided a combined office was established. He awaited further advices from the Superintendent.

**ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE DISTRICT BOARD.** The Honorary Secretary said that at the instance of the Chairman he had addressed the President of the District Board on this subject, and he read the President's reply No. 134 G dated 5th. August 1922, in which it was stated that under the present rules three members were to be returned by the N-W. P. A., but that the sanction of Government had been asked to the appointment of an additional member. The Chairman said he thought it would be well to elect four members at once, in anticipation of that sanction, and the following gentlemen were unanimously elected:—

Mr. R. Fowke to represent Pundalur.

Mr. J. Aird to represent the Ouchterlony Valley.

Mr. G. W. Fulcher to represent Nellakotta.

Mr. F. W. F. Fletcher to represent Naduvatam.

**U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL MEETING.** The items on the Agenda were taken seriatim, and the necessary instructions given to our delegates. The accounts for year ending 31st. March 1922 were also gone into. Under head 8 of the Agenda paper, the Report of the Labour Commission and the proposals of the Executive Committee for the reorganisation of the UPASI were discussed at length. The consensus of opinion was that the rates of subscription suggested by the Executive Committee might be accepted; but several members expressed the hope that at the coming UPASI Meeting it would be made clear how the subscription of Rs. 1/- per acre "to cover the expenses of general activities" would be apportioned. On this point certain instructions were given to our delegates.

**CORRESPONDENCE.** Read letter No. 1875 dated 14th. June 1922 from Secretary UPASI re Mappilla labour. His further advices are awaited.



Read letter No. 3682 dated 31st. July 1922 from Secretary UPASI Mr. Naylor undertook to inspect Mr. Archer's grave, and give it any attention it might need. Mr. Howlett was not buried anywhere in the District.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the Meeting closed.

J. AIRD F. W. F. FLETCHER  
CHAIRMAN. HONORARY SECRETARY.

### **NORTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD AT BALEHONORE ON THE 7TH AUGUST 1922.

PRESENT:—Mr. C. H. Browne (Chairman). Messrs W. H. Reed, L. Poysor, G. V. R. Frend, F. Morgan, F. W. Hight, R. O. Piggott, B. A. Chenna Gowda, B. A. Subba Gowda, H. Browne (Honorary Secretary).

By Proxy:—Messrs R. G. Foster & E. W. Fowke.

Visitors:—Messrs D. A. Thomas, T. A. S. Webb, F. Cannon & Veerappa Hedge.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

RULES OF THE N. M. P. A. Revised rules prepared by the Committee, appointed for the purpose were handed the Chairman but owing to pressure of other business, it was decided to postpone discussion to the next meeting.

RE-ORGANISATION U. P. A. S. I. After reading the re-organisation proposals of the Executive Committee, the Mundakayam Planters' Association and recommendations of the Labour Committee, a lengthy discussion took place. The Meeting was not in favour of supporting any of the schemes as they stood, but were unanimously of opinion, that the Labour Department should be a separate Department with its own Director, that the Secretary of the UPASI should hold no office in it and membership of the Labour Department to be voluntary.

The following Resolution was passed unanimously.

That Delegates be authorised to support a subscription to the UPASI not exceeding General Expences 3 annas per acre, Subsidy to Labour Department 6 annas per acre, Reserve Fund  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna per acre. This Association recommends its members to agree to a subscription of not more than 10 annas per acre to the Labour Department. The Mycologist Department to be separate Department maintained by Rubber. While strongly in favour of an efficient Scientific Department, this Association considers the results obtained, owing to insufficient funds, are not satisfactory. In the opinion of this Association there is room for economy in the cost of working the UPASI & Labour Department, more especially as regards the salaries and allowances of the Staff. The Office of the UPASI should be removed to Madras or Bangalore for preference the latter."

**ROADS & COMMUNICATIONS.** Read letter from the Executive Engineer to the President Kadur District Board stating that some culverts on the Kotagahurra Kalasa road were widened last year and that arrangements will be made to widen the remaining narrow culverts. —Noted with satisfaction.

**BHOOND GHAT.** The Secretary reported he had received no reply to his letter of 22nd June, to the Collector of South Kanara regarding the deplorable condition of this road. Resolved:—

“That the Secretary again write to the Collector of South Kanara requesting an early reply.”

Strong complaints were made of the condition of the 11th mile of the Balur Magudi road, which is almost impassable from unconsolidated ballast and metal, the steam roller lying idle since 30th July. Resolved:—

“To at once send a telegram to the Executive Engineer drawing his attention to the condition of the road.”

**POST OFFICES.** The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Superintendent of Post Offices informing him that during heavy rain letters and other postal matter frequently arrived soaked with rain water and in some cases reduced to pulp and requesting that more suitable bags be employed.

Mr. Chenna Gowda expressed his willingness to run a motor service from Mudigeri to Kalasa for the carriage of passengers and mails provided a suitable grant was sanctioned by the postal authorities. Mr. Chenna Gowda's proposal was strongly supported by members interested. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the Superintendent of Post Offices and enquire if he would support the project, and if so, what subsidy would be paid for carrying the mails.

**FINANCE.** The Budget for the current year was considered. It was resolved to place Rs. 2,000 for one year with the Chickmagalur Branch of the Bank of Mysore.

**REGISTERED ADDRESS.** Resolved to ask the Bank of Mysore if it would be willing to allow the registered address of the Association to be at their Chickmagalur Branch.

**COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.** Resolved that notice be given the Secretary UPASI that on completion of the current year this Association will collect its own subscriptions.

**ALLOWANCES.** Resolved that allowances to delegates to the UPASI and Dassera Assembly be, six annas per mile for road travel, first class railfare and Rs. 10 per diem halting allowance.

**STANDARDISATION OF WAGES.** The Secretary stated that an overwhelming majority of Estates had adopted the bonus system, he was instructed to write to outstanding members asking them to come into line.



**HOOKWORM CAMPAIGN.** An interesting paper, by the Medical Officer of Sallebille Medical Fund, was read to the Meeting on the cause, effect on the subject and treatment of hookworm cases. It was resolved to inform Government that this Association would be glad to co-operate in combating this scourge.

C. H. BROWNE

PRESIDENT

H. BROWNE

HONORARY SECRETARY.

### **SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE VICTORIA ROOMS YARCAUD ON THE 9TH AUGUST 1922.

**PRESENT:**— Mrs. V. A. Lechler, Messrs C. Dickins (Chairman), W. Rahm, S. M. Hight, C. D. Ryle, C. Rahm, C. L. Hight, N. M. Hight, W. A. Rahm, Rev. Fr. E. Studer, and V. L. Travers Drapes (Honorary Secretary).

**By Proxy:**— Mrs. M. S. M. R. Short, Mrs. D. M. Poyser and Rev. Fr. Capelle.

Proceedings of the Extraordinary General Meeting held 7th March were confirmed, and the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held 11th May were confirmed with exception of that part relating to the payment of subscription once a year.

**COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTION.** Proposed by Revd. Fr. Studer and seconded by Mr. C. D. Ryle:—

"That in view of the amount of extra work entailed in collecting subscriptions quarterly, all future subscriptions be paid once in a year to the Honorary Secretary on or before the 1st April of each year, and that reminders be sent to all members a month prior to this date and that this rescinds all past resolutions on this matter." *Carried unanimously.*

**LABOUR COMMISSION REPORT.** Further action on this was postponed until after the Annual Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I.

**ELECTION OF U. P. A. S. I. DELEGATES.** Messrs C. Dickins and V. L. Travers Drapes were elected to represent the Association at Bangalore.

**U. P. A. S. I. ANNUAL MEETING.** The Agenda was discussed in detail and the delegates instructed accordingly.

**STANDARDISATION OF WAGES.** The Schedule relating to the Shevaroyas received with letter of 10th April from Secretary of the UPASI was accepted.

**INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES.** Draft Rules received with letter of 28th April from the U. P. A. S. I. was accepted.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

CHAS, DICKINS, Chairman.

V. L. TRAVERS DRAPES, Honorary Secretary.

## U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS.

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN TEA FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Asia.	Africa.	America.	Australia
Madras.	128	...	202,787	500	...	...	...	200
Calicut.	12,835	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	22,179	...	2,014,647	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin	...	238,437	1,651,759	...	854	...	...	...
Minor Ports	...	9,050	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total: this month	35,142	242,487	3,869,193	500	854	...	...	200
Previously: From 1-4-22 to 30-6-22	47,269	640,441	5,079,306	5,180	600	13,535	760,809	203
Total: From 1-4-22 to 31-7-22.	82,411	882,928	8,948,499	5,680	1,454	13,535	760,809	403

Grand Total Exports ... 10,695,719 lbs.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## THE INDIAN TEA CESS.

This was first constituted under the Indian Tea Cess Act No. IX of 1903 which made legal the imposition of a duty of one quarter of a pie per pound on all Tea produced in India and exported. The period for which the Act was to be in force was five years from 1st April 1903, and a Committee of those interested in the Industry was appointed to receive and administer the proceeds of the Cess, which in the first year realized Rs. 2,67,912. The period was extended for a further five years in 1908, 1913 and finally in 1918.

The amount re-alized for the year ending 31st March 1921 was Rs. 3,66,439. The Cess from that date being increased from 2 as 1 pie per 100 lbs to 4 annas per 100 which brought in during the following year, Rs. 7,44,334. But this amount was still found insufficient to meet the cost of the advertising work it is proposed to take up and the Tea Industry have recently consented to it again being raised from 4 annas to 6 annas per 100 lbs of Tea exported. The last period for which the cess was renewed comes to an end on 31st March next but as the commencement of the levy of the new rate recently accepted cannot come into force, much if at all before that date, there can be no doubt that the extension of the period for a further five years will be practically if not completely unanimously supported.

### LIGHT RAILWAYS-CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT.

The following resolutions were passed at a conference held at the Legislative Council Hall, on 22nd May 1922.

I. The Conference recommends to the district boards the desirability of investigating the possibility of opening light railways or railed roads in their districts to be constructed and worked under the Indian Tramways Act and request them also to consider the question of having such light railways or railed roads in place of metre gauge or broad gauge railways proposed where funds cannot be found for the construction of the latter.

II. The Conference recommends to the Government that a committee be appointed to consider and prepare a note for the use of the district boards as to how the light railways should be constructed and managed and in what cases they may be preferred to broad and metre gauges.

III. The Conference requests the Government to give a guarantee to district boards which have railway cess funds but no schemes under section 113 of the Local Boards Act ready for execution, that, if they lend their funds necessary for carrying out their schemes when ready will be lent by Government.

The Conference recommends to the boards which have funds but no schemes ready for execution to lend their funds to boards which have schemes ready for execution on the above said guarantee.

IV. The Conference resolves that the Local Boards Act, 1920, be so amended as to enable district boards which cannot utilize the accumulated railway cess for any of the purposes mentioned in section 113 of the Act, to utilize the proceeds of investment of such cess for capital expenditure on roads and bridges.

In pursuance of the 2nd resolution, the Government have appointed a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen.

1. W. Hutton Esquire, M. Inst. C. E., W. I. E., (Ind.), Chairman.
2. Lt.-Col. E. Barnardiston, D. S. O., R. E.,
3. T. E. Moir, Esquire, C. S. I., C. I. E., I. C. S.,
4. M. R. Ry. Rai Bahadur T. Ramalinga Chettiyar Avl. M. L. C.,
5. Divan Bahadur Sir T. Desika Achariyar, M. L. C.,
6. M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur T. Balaji Rao Nayudu Garu M. L. C.,
7. M. R. Ry. Rai Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu Garu M. L. C.,
8. B. Rama Rau, Esquire, I. C. S., Secretary.

The following points have been referred to the Committee:—

1. Whether light railways on district board roads should be preferred to broad gauge or metre gauge lines; if so, under what circumstances?



2. Whether light railways should be worked under the Tramways Act or the Railway Act?

3. To what agency the actual construction and management may be entrusted?

4. Whether a Central Board should be constituted for the management and control of these railways?

5. On what principles light railways under district board management should be financed?

The committee is also requested to examine and advise on the railway schemes now under contemplation.

### ANAMALAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ANAMALAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD ON AUGUST 9TH, 1922, AT 11 A. M.

*Present:* Messrs J. Hatton. Robinson (Chairman), C. R. T. Congreve, J. H. Ireland-Jones, E. N. House, A. W. F. Mills, J. E. Carless, C. W. R. Tyler, F. Simmons, A. C. Cotton, S. Sladden, T. W. H. Fitchett, Le Mesurer, E. H. Francis, and D. Cooper (Hon. Sec.)

*Visitors:*— G. D. Marr, W. T. Broadhurst.

*New Members:*— Mr. Simmons proposed and the Chairman seconded that Mr. Le Mesurer be a member of this Association. Carried unanimously.

*Minutes:*— The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 26-4-22 were taken as read and confirmed.

*Committee:*— The Chairman read names of the General Committee: Messrs J. E. Carless, C. R. T. Congreve, C. W. R. Tyler, A. C. Cotton, T. W. H. Fitchett, J. Hatton. Robinson and Honorary Secretary (ex officio).

*U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting Agenda:*— The various items of this were discussed and delegates instructed thereon.

Mr. Congreve proposed and Mr. Tyler seconded: that this Association agrees to the all in subscription of Re. 1/- per acre, to the U. P. A. S. I., as suggested by the Executive Committee, but is of opinion that the optional Subscription of Re. 1/4/- for Tea and 1/8/- for Coffee, per acre, to the Labour Department will not meet requirements and therefore, whilst leaving the Decision to its Delegates, recommends them to suggest a higher rate of Subscription up to a maximum of Re. 1/8 for Tea and 1/12 for Coffee, per acre. Carried nem com.

*Mundakayam Resolutions:*—Recorded that the Association had not generally in favour of these and adhered to the Resolution passed today.

*Indian Tea Cess:*—The Meeting was generally in favour of this being increased by 2 annas to 6 annas per 100 lbs., provided a suitable scheme was brought forward.

*Post Office:*—The Honorary Secretary reported that he had written to the Superintendent of Post Offices, Nilgiris, asking for a change of Postmaster as requested to do by the Committee.

*Inter-District Labour Laws:*—Proposed from the Chair that the Inter-District Rules 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 as sent to this Association by the U. P. A. S. I. be accepted. Carried unanimously.

*Travelling Allowances for Association's Delegates:*—The Committee's suggestion of -/12/- per mile by road to Coimbatore, double first class fare from there, halting allowance of Rs. 15/- for Annual General Meeting and Rs. 10/- for all other business per diem, was passed unanimously.

*District Board:*—The Honorary Secretary reported that according to the Committee's request he had circularized all estates for expenditure under Medical and Roads and he read out figures received up to date.

*Special Committee:*—The Honorary Secretary read out the report of the Special Committee, held on 31—5—22.

*Correspondence:*—In regarding letter from the Nilgiri Planters' Association requesting date of registration of maistries the Honorary Secretary reported that according to the Committee's request he had written to the Nilgiri Planter's Association stating that the Committee considered further details, other than those already given, unnecessary.

*Valparai Court:*—Mr. Cotton proposed and Mr. Simmons seconded:—that the Honorary Secretary write and ask the Asst. Collector, Pollachi to inform the Association of the hours for which the monthly Court at Valparai will be held. Carried.

*Minor Forest Produce:*—Mr. Simmons proposed and Mr. Carless seconded a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Messrs Napier and Walsh for their work in this connection.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

(Signed). J. HATTON. ROBINSON,

CHAIRMAN.

„ DUDLEY COOPER,

HONORARY SECRETARY

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## CULTIVATION OF MATURE RUBBER AREAS.

*(Mr. Ashplant's Views Substantiated)*

At the Annual U. P. A. S. I. Conference held in Bangalore during August 1921 the present writer pointed out the undesirability of cultivating mature rubber areas, quoting in support of his views, the results of some experiments\* carried out by him in Sumatra some four years previously. Briefly, these experiments demonstrated:

1. That cultivation does not, as commonly supposed, bring about any increase in yield.
2. That by the cultivation of mature rubber areas, the growth of the trees may be considerably set back.

From a further set of experiments he was able to show that the set back experienced is due to the inevitable damage done to the tree's root system by the implements of cultivation.

An interesting set of figures were submitted of the girth measurements of five plots, all differently manured, four of which suffered a retardation in growth following upon the application of manures. The proportionate manner in which the retardation varied according as the manuring was light or heavy was very striking, and it was clear from the evidence adduced, that the benefits anticipated from the manuring of Rubber areas are frequently more than offset by the damage occasioned in digging or forking in the manures.

On the yield, the effect of the treatment was negative. No measurable improvement in output was recorded as the result of forking or cultivation while only in one instance was the evidence favourable to manuring.

### *Explanation of Failure of Manuring Experiments*

For years past, the extraordinarily contradictory results obtained by manuring have baffled interpretation. Over and over again, in manuring experiments, designed with the object of demonstrating the efficiency of this or that manure, the control plot, which has received no treatment whatsoever, has shown results as good as, and in some case better than the plots manured.

The above-mentioned experiments do much to explain the unsatisfactory results of manuring, and we now know one of the reasons, probably the chief reason for the failure of so many manuring schemes.

From inexcusable apathy, the cause of which we shall discuss later the important problem of cultivation has been ignored by the various Rubber experimental Stations, and the revolutionary results of the writers experiments, remained until quite recently, unconfirmed by any other experimenter.

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\* A full account of these experiments will be given in a later number.

*Experiments of the Holland America Plantations*

In January last, however, there appeared in the "Archief for Rubber Culture" a paper by Grantham, in which he detailed the results of an extensive series of experiments in cultivating Hevea soils of all types. Unfortunately girth measurements, which afford the best criteria of the effect of any method of treatment on Hevea were not employed. Observations were limited to noting the effect of cultivation upon yield and superficial root development.

Grantham's Experiments took the form of:—

1. Cultivation by forking over the whole area 9 inches deep.
2. Cultivation by mamatty over the whole area 12 inches deep. A space of five feet around each tree were left in both cases (3) & (4) Similar to above, except that alternate rows, instead of every row were cultivated.

A good deal of the paper taken up with details of surface root examination undertaken with the idea of ascertaining the effect of cultivation on root development. This attempt to gauge the value of cultivation by general observations on the extent of root regeneration after treatment could only yield results if the effects were very marked indeed, and only then, when the examination is exceptionally thorough and confined to one or two trees. It is difficult to see how such a method can yield quantitative results, or results of any exactitude, and although the evidence is unfavourable to cultivation it is only of subsidiary value.

Of more importance is the influence of cultivation upon yield. Here the experiments of Grantham failed, as did those of the present writer, to demonstrate any improvements. (*In no case were beneficial results obtained*).

This additional demonstration of the futility of cultivation by the experiments of the Holland America Plantations, the largest and most scientifically managed rubber plantations in the world should dissipate the illusions of the most inveterate "Digger", but for those who require further corroborated evidence, it is available.

*Auros Experiments in Cultivation*

Upon the heels of Grantham's construction comes a paper by Mass and Rutgers on the same subject. This paper describes a series of experiments carried out on Tajong Merah Estate (one of the group controlled by Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfields in Sumatra). The particular feature of this experiment, which comprise ten 5 acre plots, is that the cultivation was carried out by means of oxen-drawn Indian ploughs, instead of by mamaties or forks. Cultivation was shallow and confined to an 8 foot strip up the middle of each row of trees.

Crop measurements from here, as in Grantham's experiments, the chief test of improvement, and, instead of girth records, measurements of the bark thickness—another most uncertain test—were utilised,



The effect of the cultivation upon the renewal was, if anything adverse, but here again no one who has tried this method and understands its pitfalls will accept their figures without making such a liberal discount for errors of experiment Station as to rectify the small differences recorded.

With regard to yield the records taken immediately after cultivation show nothing either way, but three years later the cultivation plots gave considerably lower yields than those which were not cultivated. The differences however, are not sufficiently great to neutralise the possible experimental error, and as the control of the experiments described appears to have been none too strict, too much must not be read into the actual figures. We will only know here that the yield records of Messrs. Maas and Rutgers experiment point the same way as those obtained by Grantham and the present writer and their conclusion is the same as the former, viz: that "*no positively favourable influence was noticeable as a result of cultivation*".

A final chapter in the same paper deals with an enquiry made by Rutgers into the crop statistics of two Estates which claimed to have put up their crop by a hundred per cent by means of cultivation. Wild claims of this sort used to be very common but always in the writer's experience they have been found from examination to be illusory and the verdict of this particular enquiry was not likely to be otherwise. The critical examination of the crop statistics by Rutgers reveal the fact that the increase in yield claimed to have been brought about by cultivation was experienced also by neighbouring estates where no cultivation was practised. Other conditions on the latter Estate were more or less the same, except, be it noted that one or two of the compared Estates had a cover crop of grass instead of the usual bare clean weeded surface.

Rutgers failed entirely to connect the increase in crop with the treatment undergone and he dismisses as untrue the assertion that the crop improvement was the result of cultivation.

#### *First Demonstration of Futility of Cultivation*

The writer may here be pardoned a personal note. In the paper referred to, the statement is made by Maas that Grantham in January last was the first to obtain statistical evidence on the question of cultivation. It is only just to the present writer to point out that Statistics as to the futility of cultivation were obtained and communicated by him to the Estates he was interested in nearly four years ago. As it was thought desirable, in view of the wanting preliminary results to await records for a longer period before issuing a full account of his experiments, a description of these experiments was not published. The results obtained by the end of 1918 however, were conclusive enough for practical purposes and in view of the extent to which cultivation was being advocated, and taken up by estates some sort of publicity seemed desirable. This was given in two articles in the

"Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal". By this and other means the views of the writer were disseminated fairly widely in planting circles at the time realizing that the cultivation fetish was maintained chiefly by advice issued by Directors in England.

He took the opportunity whilst in England on home leave in 1919 and 20 of putting the facts in his possession regarding cultivation before several of the leading Plantation Companies which had authorised and were carrying out large cultivation schemes. At various times also he has personally communicated these results to the staff of the Rubber Experiment Stations in Sumatra, Malaya and Ceylon. In this propaganda he has been unable to obtain any assistance from their subsidized rubber experimental stations. No where could they be got to make up their minds or issue any authoritative statement on 'cultivation'. Without recourse to experiment, of course, a decisive opinion would not have been possible, but a warning as to the unproven value of the practice would have prevented an appalling waste of money. To day when all the money has been spent and no one cares two pence who has two pence to spend on cultivation the announcement by one of the leading Rubber Stations that "Cultivation is undesirable" must make their layman ponder.

#### *"Scientific Rubber Planting or Market Gardening"*

It may be of some interest to recall here the two articles published by him under the above headings in December 1918 in the Journal mentioned. These articles dealt more particularly with the disastrous effects of root pruning in rubber, but cultivation also came in for some attention.

Dealing with a statement of a local "Authority" who had recommended the deep changcolling of Estates every third year the writer said:— "one would like to have some of the evidence upon which the universal mania for deep changcolling Estates every third year is. During the last five years I have seen a good deal of this periodical cultivation. The benefits have never been very apparent, but the evils are evident enough, and I am still engaged in repairing some of them. About a year and a half ago I commenced a set of experiments in deep and shallow cultivation. Reliable statistical evidence is not yet available, but one would, at any rate, have expected to see some improvement in the appearance of the cultivated plots after eighteen months if this much vaunted changkolling of rubber estates was of any real use. There is no sign of such improvement in the lightly cultivated plot whilst the plot which was deeply changkolling instead of looking better is looking very much worse and seems to have had a serious set back".

"The statement that the periodical cultivation of Estates is necessary in the interests of sanitation has no sort of justification. The deep cultivation of every sort and condition of soil every three years is a crack-brained suggestion. It is not sanitation but insanity".



The kindred question of soil aeration which in this case only meant root destruction under an intriguing alias, and which also formed the subject of advice, drew forth the following comment:—"It is necessary to know something of the land which it is desired to aerate before venturing to recommend it. Many tropical soils are so loose that they need little more aeration than that which is got from the percolation of the drainage water and by changkolling and forking the soil about, both labour and fertility are flung away. The incessant digging over of estates in these drain-drenched regions sends most of the top soil into the drains and rivers. It facilitates the spread of Fomes and other diseases and on some Estates, where the soil is of slight depth, more roots are destroyed in five minutes changkolling than the tree can replace in five years. We have become so accustomed to this laceration and mutilation of Hevea roots that we think little of it, but if, in our plantations at home we discovered any one doing half the damage which is done daily here in the name of 'cultivation' and 'root pruning', we should sue him for damages in the local courts."

In reply to the argument that cultivation lead to a more favourable root development:—"It is often assumed by Rubber Planters that the meshus of tiny rootlets which come to the surface after changkolling are due to root cutting. For the most part, however, these rootlets have been stimulated to develop by the improvement in the quality or moisture contents of the soil, and they will be found to be just as much in evidence when the soil is carefully forked or stirred up without wounding the longer roots. The notion that some people have that by cutting a root they get two in its place is more or less true, but there is no comparison in the relative food-earning values of the new rootlets and the old roots with their richly branched appendages, and the transaction is about as profitable as a deal in which one tendered a shilling and received two threepenny pieces in exchange. In the words of an old phrase it is not "nine pence for four pence", but "four pence for nine pence". The foregoing naturally lead to some correspondence and, owing to its outspoken character not unexpectedly also, to some abuse the latter was not uncalled-for, admittedly the language used was strong and provocative as indeed it was intended to be. In view of the evidence cited and to be cited later however who will say today that the writers condemnation of the practice in question was unjustified. The arguments which emerged were false.

One contributor contended that since root pruning was valuable in the cases of Tea and Coffee it stood to reason that it was similarly beneficial on Rubber Estates. In answer to this it was emphasised that:—"Between rubber culture and tea or coffee culture there is no analogy. In one case it is the leaves and in the other, it is the seeds which are the objects sought by the planter. In the cultivation of Hevea, on the other hand, the one product desired is latex, not seeds, and so far it has not been found possible by operations on its roots or

branches to divert the tree's energies from seed production to latex manufacture. Apart from the regular tapping operations, which utilise the habit of "wound response" the only known method of augmenting the production of latex is an indirect one, depending upon increasing the girth development and hence the amount of tappable laticiferous tissue of the tree. The girth development is promoted by any measure which adds to the fertility of the soil or increases the production of organs of assimilation or absorption. The contention that it is promoted by the amputation or damaging of these organs is opposed to all theory, and has no basis in fact".

Where a practice is of such wide vogue and so firmly believed in as cultivation, the task of disabusing its followers of the faith is not an easy one nor is it exactly a pleasant one, to those people who have spent lakhs, or who through extravagant reports of its benefits have been the means of spending lakhs of rupees on cultivating old rubber areas, the practice has become of the nature of a vested interest, and the suggestion that all this money has been thrown away, or worse than thrown away is scarcely likely to be gratefully received. In consequence of this, the writer, despite the decisive nature of his experiments, which should at least have counselled the temporary suspension of cultivation, pending further investigation, has been slow in making an impression on the general sentiment. Although he has steadily promulgated the results of these experiments on cultivation since 1918, and his belief in the unsoundness of cultivation for a much larger period, his voice has been very much as "one crying in the wilderness". Lately however, under the hard economic pressure from which rubber has previously been exempt, people have become more inclined to examine the *raison d'etre* of their practices, and when rubber revives, we shall doubtless find that cultivation, and possibly other familiar and "time honoured measures" borrowed from the market gardener will have given place to more rational methods.

H. ASHPLANT.



## U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS.

## SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN COFFEE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1922.

Form.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe other than U. K.	Asia.	Africa.	America.	Australia.
	cwts	cwts	cwts	cwts	cwts	cwts	cwts	cwts
Madras.	302	...	...	99	6	...	...	101
Calicut.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay & Minor ports	...	...	...	6	105	87	...	...
Totals: this month	302	...	...	105	111	87	...	101
Previously: From 1-1-22 to 30-6-22	7832	21	32,720	62,968	6,721	374	2,160	6,981
Total: From 1-1-22 to 31-7-22.	8134	21	32,720	63,073	6,832	461	2,160	7,082
Grand Total Exports				...	120,483 cwts.			

## U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS.

SHIPMENTS OF SOUTH INDIAN RUBBER FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	U. K.	Europe.	America.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Cochin ...	94,884	...	176,617	20,160	73,075
Tuticorin ...	...	67,564	15,312	...	...
Alleppey ...	...	11,180	...	...	...
Total: this month ...	94,884	78,744	191,929	20,160	73,075
Previously:-From 1-1-22 to 30-6-22	288,824	518,048	1,231,564	101,076	624,952
Total: From 1-1-22 to 31-7-1922.	383,708	596,792	1,423,493	121,236	698,027

Grand Total Exports ... 3,223,256 lbs.



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## BYGONES 1

### *Some Early Testimonials of Tea.*

The Englishman in India always had a reputation as a hard drinker and of dragging behind the times as for any temperance movement was concerned; but it must be remembered that most of the stories handed down refer to a time when there were no Pussyfoot drinks except water, the advantages of boiling which, before drinking it, was not properly understood. Wine was the common drink of the merchantile community both in Europe and the East, and the ordinary allowance by the East India Company was three bottles of sherry per man and one and a half per lady.

The Factory of Bencoolen in Sumatra, consisting of nineteen persons, consumed in the course of a year, the amazing quantity of 74½ dozen bottles of wine, 50 dozen of French claret, 24½ dozen of Burton Ale, 2 pipes and 42 gallons of Madeira, 274 bottles of Toddy and 164 gallons of Goa arrack, which called for the following remark from the Company,—

"It is a wonder that any of you live six months to an end, or that there are not more quarrellings and duelling among you, if half the liquors he charges were really guzzled down".

From this and other causes, owing to misunderstanding as to the climate, mortality was terribly high and created the proverb among Englishmen in Bombay that "*Two Monsoons are the age of a man.*"

Still it was from Bombay that the present drink of Englishmen, Tea, was introduced into England.

In April 1638 Albert de Mandelslo, a young German nobleman visited the Factory at Surat and records in his memoirs,—

"Our divertisement was thus ordered." On Fridays, after prayers, there was a particular assembly, at which met with us three other merchants who were of kin to the President, and had left as well as he their wives in England, which day being that of their departure from England, they had appointed it for to make a Commemoration thereof, and drink their wives' healths. Some made their advantage of this meeting to get more than they could well carry away, though every man was at liberty to drink what he pleased, and to mix the Sack as he thought fit, or to drink *Palepuntz*, which is a kind of drink consisting of *aqua vitæ*, rose water, juice of citrons and sugar. At our ordinary meetings every day we took only *The* which is commonly used all over the Indies, not only among those of the country, but also among the Dutch and English, who take it as a drug that cleanses the stomach and digests the superfluous humours by a temperate heat particular thereto."

Again the Revd. Ovington, who as Chaplain to the Company's ship "*Benjamin*", visited Bombay in 1689, in the book which he published of his adventure, waxes enthusiastic over this new beverage, he says:—

"With some hot spices intermixt and boiled in the water, tea has the repute of prevailing against the headache, gravel, and griping in the guts, and it is generally drunk in India, either with sugar candy, or by the more curious, with small conserved lemons. The frequent use of this innocent tea, and the perpetual perspiration which is caused by the heat, which is augmented by this liquor, are the reason why the gout, stone, agues, rheumatisms and catarrhs are rarely heard of in those parts.

Tea was however a very expensive luxury, for in 1660 the price was Rs. 50 a pound, at a time when the rupee was worth 2s. 9d. and its purchasing value was more than four times what it is now.

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**EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF RUBBER MYCOLOGIST.***Process for vulcanizing Rubber from Latex.*

In October last, during the course of some investigations into the possibility of producing a cheap water-proof material from various rubber mixtures, the writer discovered a practicable process for transforming latex directly into vulcanized rubber. A brief note of this was given in the monthly reports of the Mycological station of the period, but as pressure of work in other directions prevented for the time being, the development of the process, and the solution of the various practical difficulties which were seen to confront any endeavour to utilise latex directly for the purpose mentioned further work on the subject was postponed.

Lately the investigations have been taken up again and a good many of the practical difficulties referred to overcome. The absence of any sort of equipment is of course a serious handicap to work of this nature, but, notwithstanding, some excellent samples of fully vulcanized rubber have been turned out. In physical properties such as elasticity and strength, these samples struck one as superior to the rubber one ordinarily meets with, and there are theoretical reasons why this should be so.

Rubber sheeting in natural and permanent shades of all kinds have been produced and fabrics water-proofed. Attempts made to incorporate latex with various substances in order to obtain a cheap flooring material or leather substitute have also been successful. A compound obtained by mixing 50% leather shavings with latex is particularly promising.

In view of the urgent need for the development of new uses for rubber or extending its familiar uses, the possibility of the cheap production from latex of certain classes of rubber goods is of great importance. The class of goods which could be turned out by the above process includes rubber sheeting, steam packing, soles and heels, tiles, mats, corks, erasers, solid rickshaw and cab tyres, and other common and easily moulded articles. The process lends itself also to the making of paving blocks for roads, and one cannot help feeling that if ever rubber roads are to be a commercial possibility, the high costs incidental to the manufacture of the material in Europe will have to be eliminated, and the blocks supplied ready for laying from this end.

*Ebonite from Latex.*

While the cheapened production of soft rubber articles may lead to the application of rubber to new and extended uses and assist in getting rid of some of the present surplus, the writer is of opinion that the field open to hard rubber or vulcanite is capable of much greater development. Vulcanite withstands the action of most chemical reagents is practically everlasting, and can be made to take a very high and attractive polish. Its only drawback which in some cases is an advantage is the property it possesses of bending when strongly heated. The difficulty and expense associated with vulcanite manufacture, and the consequent high price of the material have hitherto been the main obstacle to its more extensive employment. The possibilities of vulcanite are, however, almost infinite, provided its production can be cheapened. One has only to think of unbreakable pails, cups, table tops, jars and domestic vessels of all kinds to appreciate the extended uses to which vulcanite can be put in domestic matters alone to say nothing of obvious industrial apparatus. Special interest, therefore, attaches to the manufacture of ebonite directly from latex which was accomplished by the writer a short time ago. It may be remarked in conclusion that the preparation of vulcanized rubber from latex, is, in itself, no great problem and its achievement either here or elsewhere is not a new, nor necessarily an important discovery. The real problem lies in the conversion of such a process to practical uses and here all kinds of little troubles arise from which the manufacture of rubber in the way patented by Goodyear is fallen.

There are several difficulties inherent in any process for the direct utilisation of latex in the manufacture of rubber goods. The readiness with which the latex coagulates, and the irreversibility of the process, when once it has commenced, makes its manipulation exceedingly tricky. Another difficulty is the presence in latex of 60 per cent (more or less) of water. The treatment of latex with vulcanising reagents is, indeed, an exceptionally delicate business, and opens up a new and interesting branch of rubber chemistry. As there are still numerous difficulties to overcome too much should not be made of the process at present, but the results attained so far justify the belief that it contains considerable commercial possibilities. The utilization of the remarkable properties of rubber latex has only just begun and it is not improbable that when this field has received some portion of the attention and ingenuity hitherto given to crude rubber we may witness developments which will go a long way towards solving the surplus rubber problem.

H. ASHPLANT.

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## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 28. (7TH AUGUST TO 3RD SEPTEMBER 1922).

Mr. Rudolph D. Anstead was in charge of the Section till 10th August 1922, and Mr. D. G. Munro received charge from him on the forenoon of 11th August 1922, the former having been appointed as officiating Director of Agriculture, Madras. The Deputy Director (Mr. Munro) remained at headquarters till the evening of 18th August when he left for Bangalore to attend the Annual Meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India. He returned to headquarters on the morning of the 28th August.

2. *The Experiment Stations.* (1st to 25th August).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, 8 inches of rain was gauged during the period. The planting and mulching of Coffee was finished and the shade was regulated wherever necessary. 1,118 supplies were planted this year as against 1,480 plants last year. Sickle weeding was also done in about 17 acres.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, very heavy rain was experienced; 20.25 inches being recorded. This interfered with the field operations. 3,235 lbs. of green leaf were obtained from 40.27 acres an acre yield of 80 lbs. for the period. *Indigofera Endecaphyla* and *dadap* have become established and they look healthy.

At the *Mooply Rubber Experiment Station*, 18.28 inches of rain was received. Tapping was done regularly and a yield of 400 lbs. of wet sheet and 58½ lbs of wet scrap were obtained.

Yield per tree per day in oz.

Plot.	System.	W.E.5-8-22	W.E.12-8-22	W.E.19-8-22	W.E.26-8-22
1to12	One third daily.	0.28	0.29	0.26	0.25
13	Do	0.33	0.31	0.30	0.31
14	One third alternate days.	0.32	0.39	0.38	0.41
14 a	Half Do.	0.39	0.41	0.42	0.50
15	One third daily.	0.27	0.27	0.30	0.31
17to19	Do	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.24

At the *Tenmalai Experiment Station*, 9.22 inches of rain was received. Tapping was done fairly regularly, 379.76 lbs. of wet sheet and 30.27 lbs. of wet scrap were harvested.

Plot.	System	Yield per tree per day in oz. for week ending			
		5-8-1922	12-8-1922	19-8-1922	26-8-1922
1 to 14	One third daily	0.46	0.43	0.44	0.41
20	Do	0.44	0.43	0.47	0.50
17	One third alter- nate days	0.53	0.41	0.50	0.51
15 & 18	Half Do	0.68	0.67	0.68	0.71
24 a	One third daily in morning	0.41	0.43	0.40	0.44
24 b	do in evening	0.48	0.39	0.39	0.38
24 c	do in evening only	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.40

D. G. MUNRO,

Acting Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

### PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION REPORT FOR AUGUST 1922.

*Agriculture.* Harvesting of the paddy, Cholan, and Raggi crops was commenced, and in parts of S. Travancore, planting of the future paddy crop was also in progress.

Approximate rates of wages for ordinary works, excluding harvesting and contracts, were as follows;

Adult Males 6 As. to 8 As. Adult Females 4 As. to 6 As. Children 2 As. to 3½ As. Harvesting and Contract work Rupee One per day average wage.

*Prices.* The following table gives a very fair idea of the prices prevailing in this District and S. Travancore.

#### *Price per Measure.*

Paddy 1¾ to 3 as. Rice 4 to 5¼ as. Raggi 2½ to 4 as. Cumboo 3 to 3¾ as. Cholan 2¼ to 4 as. Dhall 5 to 8 as. Chillies 2 to 6 as. per lb.

September will be a busy month and the wages for labour will increase considerably. The most important work will be the harvesting of the Paddy Crop.

*Weather.* Rainfall was not much during the month and in certain parts of the Tinnevely District water was very scarce.

*Health.* Small pox was very bad throughout the Tinnevely District and is considered worse this year than several preceeding years.

A. G. A. DUNNING,  
SUPERINTENDENT.



**MYSORE DIVISION REPORT, AUGUST 1922.**

During the first half of the month there was no rain to speak of in the District but latterly some good showers have fallen, and crop prospects are brighter.

In the Nanjangud, Chamarajanagar, Kollegal and Gundlupet Taluks, crop prospects are very fair, but in the drier parts, North of Mysore City the rains were not in time to save the ragi crop, which can only be a very poor one.

At present there is plenty of work for coolies harvesting the Cholam crop which will continue until about September 15th, after which there will not be much until the ragi crop is harvested.

There is however always a fair demand for female labour in the Southern Taluks for the silk-worm industry, at which they can earn up to As. 8-10 per day.

The prices of food stuffs has fallen and the latest Gundlupet Shandy prices are:—

Rice per pullah of 100 Mysore seers	Rs. 23/-
Ragi	10/-
Cholam	11/-
Horse Gram	13/-

Coolies who had stayed in their country for the Gowri-feast have been noticed going in.

C. C. KENT,  
SUPERINTENDENT.

**EMIGRATION OF COOLIES.**

There are two resolutions relating to emigration of coolies notice of which have been given, for discussion during the present session of the Madras Legislative Council.

Mr. S. B. Rath proposes "That this Council recommends to the Government that early steps be taken to alter the existing arrangements and completely stop emigration of coolies and men from the Agency division as the proposed development and opening up of the Agency tracts is likely to offer better employment and wages.

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju has given notice of a resolution, in the following terms:—"That this Council recommends to the Government to stop emigration to Assam from the Agency districts.

### IMPORT DUTY ON MOTOR CARS AND ACCESSORIES.

Referring to the resolution brought forward, at the Annual General Meeting by Col. Crawford we take the following from the "Pioneer"

It was only to be expected that the heavy import duty imposed on motor vehicles and accessories in the last budget would provoke much adverse comment, and it must be admitted that a very strong case exists for a reduction in the amount of the duty. Indiscriminately to label all motor vehicles as luxuries and to tax their entry into this country on the same scale as luxuries are taxed represents a policy lacking in foresight. For it is especially in a country, like India, of great distances, and where railways and other communications are only partially developed, that the importance of the motor car and its kind to the community generally and in assisting commercial and industrial development becomes apparent. Any step, therefore, that tends to check the employment of motor vehicles must react unfavourably upon economic progress. Planters, whose protests was uttered at Bangalore conference, are in particular badly hit by the impost. In many cases they live in isolated districts, and may be fifty miles from a railway station. To them motor transport is almost a necessity, as it is to the opening up of the rural areas in which they have their occupation. It can, therefore, be readily understood that they suffer severely as a result of the tariff. In addition to this, however a matter which calls for consideration is the charge levied for the mere use of certain trunk roads, "notwithstanding" as a speaker pointed out, "that the surface of many of them was a disgrace to the local authorities."

### EDDIVANNA RUBBER AND TEA COMPANY, Ltd.

The eleventh Ordinary General Meeting of the Eddivanna Rubber and Tea Company, Limited was held at the registered Office of the Company at Calicut on the 26th August. Mr. B. Malcolm, who was in the chair in opening the meeting said,-

GENTLEMEN,—The results of the year's working show a loss which is not surprising under all the unfortunate circumstances that have occurred.

Had we been able to harvest our estimated crop we should undoubtedly have been able to pay our way for the season, for the market at the time the bulk of the crop would, under normal conditions, have been sold, was very much better than it is at present.

We may however consider ourselves fortunate in that our material losses due to the Moplah rebellion were slight and that the Estate and Buildings were left in such condition that we have been able to resume work again as from May last.

The result of our not having been able to gather our crop and consequent depletion of our financial resources left us in an unenviable position, which has been relieved by a Government loan, under



the Agriculturist's Loans Act which has enabled us to carry on. Your Directors have had to give the Government a lien on the property to provide security for this loan.

The whole position has caused your Directors great anxiety, but now work has been resumed, we hope that the results of the current year's working will prove that the cost of production of our crop which you will see we have estimated at 36.50 cents per pound to sale in Colombo will be sufficiently low to at any rate enable us to pay our way.

We must not bind ourselves to the fact that the general Rubber position of the world is such as to cause the gravest anxiety; and it would appear that it is only by some sort of Government control of crop output that the situation can be saved. The objections to Government control are great; but it was by Government control of the Coffee crops in Brazil that the Industry in that great Coffee producing country was saved from disaster many years ago; and there would seem to be no reason why the Rubber Industry should not be equally saved if only the producing countries concerned would immediately accept some common scheme of Government control of output.

Your Directors in conjunction with the representatives of the Pullangode Rubber Company arranged a joint management scheme under which we have been able to retain the services of Mr. R. Lescher, we hope to the mutual advantage of both Companies. This enables us to retain European management at a reduced cost. Mr. Lescher's headquarters are at Nilambur from where he is able to attend to work on both Estates.

We have put in a claim on the Government for Rs. 29,248-14-2 which is the minimum of loss we have sustained (including the loss of crop unharvested); Mr. Lescher and his staff have put in claims for the value of personal effects lost. We hope that all these claims will be fully paid.

I have just returned from a visit to the Estate and am glad to be able to report that I found it in very much better condition than I expected to find it. Considering the Estate was out of our possession for several months from the date of the Moplah outbreak and that owing to the market position all expenditure has been cut down to a minimum in every possible direction, the condition as regards weeds and jungle growth is by no means bad, and with a very small expenditure on weeding, now that the trees provide good cover, there should be no interference with tapping.

I found that Mr. Lescher had efficiently reorganised the working of the Estate under somewhat difficult circumstances, and that not only was tapping in full swing on all blocks of the Estate, but manufacturing arrangements have been made which will, I hope, and think, result in a good standard of rubber being produced, though there has not been opportunity, or money, to permit of any permanent extension of existing Factory accommodation.

The crop for the year is estimated at 1,80,000 lbs. but judging from the way in which this is coming in, there seems a very reasonable prospect of this estimate being exceeded.

In conclusion I think all we need is small increase in the market price of our produce to make this Company a flourishing concern.

We have to record our sympathy (I am sure all shareholders will agree) with Mr. Lescher and his staff on the losses of personal effects they sustained in the Rebellion. Our thanks are due to them and especially to Mr. Lescher for the energetic and pains taking way in which the work on the Estate has been reorganised.

Your Directors have also to express their thanks to Secretaries for their assistance, and information provided on many points arising for consideration during the year.

I now beg to move the adoption of the Accounts, Balance Sheet and Directors' Report. Carried.

#### DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION.

It was proposed by Mr. King Church that the Directors' remuneration for 1920-21 be paid immediately and that for 1921-22 when the Company has profits available and in the meantime the amount be credited in suspense. Seconded by Mr. Blyth and carried.

#### BOARD.

Mr. Blyth proposed that Mr. Malcolm be re-elected a Director. Seconded by Mr. King Church and carried.

#### AUDITORS.

Mr. King Church proposed the re-election of the Auditors for the year ending 31st March, 1923, at their present remuneration. Seconded by Mr. Blyth and carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

#### REPORT ON EDDIVANNA ESTATE.

The following is the Report on the Eddivanna Estate:—

#### ACREAGE.

Planted in 1911	...	395'82 acres
„ 1912	...	118'27 „
„ 1913	...	317'80 „
„ 1920	...	79'75 „ abandoned
Reserve Land	...	178'74 „
Total	...	<hr/> 1093'38 <hr/>



## CONDITION OF ESTATE.

It is a little over a year ago since I last visited the Estate, the Moplah rebellion and consequent temporary abandonment having intervened.

From August, 1921, up to May, 1922, no work was done with the exception of clearing firepaths to prevent damage by fire during the past hot season. This work was successfully carried out and no damage occurred.

Owing to the serious fall in the market and consequent restriction of expenses, it has not been possible to spend any more money on weeding than is essential to permit of tapping being carried out. In spite of this, however, and owing mainly to the dense shade of the Rubber trees on most of the area there is no weed or jungle growth that can be said to be causing harm.

The trees have put on considerable girth, allowing for the fact that the Estate was undergoing its attack of second leaf fall. The Rubber was all looking exceedingly well.

The Parakadu clearing (1913) of 101.59 acres had come on very considerably and with the exception of one small portion of some 4 to 5 acres is now a forest of Rubber.

The Naddukunnu clearing (1913) of 111.95 acres has been slower and is not as good as Parakadu but has improved considerably and has 80 per cent of the trees being tapped.

Block O. (1913) of 82.06 acres has come on well and is better than Naddukunnu.

## DISEASE.

The Estate was having its attack of second leaf fall. The attack is light except on a very few patches—otherwise there was nothing in the way of disease or damage by weather to matter.

## BUILDINGS.

Beyond requiring some very minor attention which they will get in due course in the season, these were all in good order.

## FACTORY.

Was in good order and everything clean and well kept. The manufacturing of the season's crop was all efficiently arranged for.

## CROP.

Up to August 15th, 39,599 lbs. of crop had been harvested which considering the incessantly bad weather in July, was good and looks hopeful for the estimate being exceeded.

A full gang of Moplah tappers was working all blocks being regularly tapped and the work was good.

### BARK RENEWAL.

On the previous years tapped area was entirely satisfactory.

### GENERAL.

In all the adverse circumstances I think we can consider ourselves exceedingly fortunate so far as the Estate is concerned. The fly in the ointment is the market position and here at present there is no light ahead. We can only hope that some sort of Government control of output will be arranged for and in the meantime your Directors hope that their efforts to keep the cost of production down, which efforts are being ably supported by Mr. Lescher, will enable us to weather the position.

The Moplah population appear to have settled down peacefully to its sundry avocations.

Mr. Lescher has successfully and efficiently reorganised the work on the Estate under difficult conditions and everything was working smoothly.

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### RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The following telegram has been received from the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, dated 13th September 1922.—

Cable received today from the Rubber Growers' Association reads as follows:—

For information only. Following Resolution passed unanimously by Council 11th September. "That this Council is of the opinion that His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies be invited to proceed to the introduction of a scheme as set out in the Report of the Stevenson Committee provided that the voluntary assistance of the British and other interests operating in the Netherlands, Indies and elsewhere can be obtained to an extent sufficient in the opinion of the committee to make the scheme effective (mutilated word) urge that if an export duty scheme is adopted the maximum duty on the lowest percentage of standard production be fixed at the lowest possible rate so as not to inflict further heavy taxation upon producers and that in the settlement of details of the scheme and its administration producers shall be consulted".

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

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(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### *Sale of Tea Act England.*

On the 1st of this month a new Act came into force in England, the chief provision of which requires that,—“A person shall not, either himself or by any servant or agent, sell or have in his possession for sale by retail any tea packed ready for sale, unless the package bears thereon or on a wrapper, band or label affixed thereto, a true statement of the net weight of the Tea contained in the package.” This regulation does not however relate to packets of tea weighing less than two ounce.

### *Coffee in Brazil*

While the growing and exportation of Coffee was for a great number of years the chief industry for which Brazil was famous there has recently been a steady increase of activity in other directions resulting in the loss by “King Coffee” of its predominating position in the countrys trade. The fact remains however that a large proportion of the total value of her exports is attributable to coffee. In 1921 the total of coffee reached 12,369,000 bags valued at £ 34,694,000.

*Tea & Coffee  
Sales*

From the last sale reports we note that the few invoices of old crop of Indian Tea met with good demand at higher prices, although the quality of the new crop is said to be poor and disappointing. The coffee market although quiet was firm for all good liquoring home trade descriptions and improvement in demand from the provinces is anticipated this month.

*Aspirin for  
flowers*

Have any of our readers tried this? If you want your cut flowers to keep fresh for a long time, you should put aspirin in the vases. Fill each vase with warm water and in this dissolve one aspirin tablet. The blossoms will remain fresh for two or three times as long as they would if put into plain water. Flowers that are badly faded should be given half an hour in a hot solution of aspirin and water. The effect is amazing: at the end of the treatment the blooms are as fresh as if they had been newly gathered.

*Tea drinking  
in India*

How greatly the consumption of tea is increasing in India is evidenced by the increase in the number of tea shops in Calcutta. At the end of 1915 there were 444 tea rooms in Calcutta, in 1916 they had increased to 1124 and in 1917 to 1420 and it is now estimated that they must exceed 2000. Apart from these rooms which have a fixed location there are very many itinerant tea vendors who sell cups of tea to passers by.

*Rubber  
Shooting-pads &  
Golf Gloves*

A scotch firm has brought out an "all-rubber" shooting pad for the elbows, the advantages claimed are that it fits the elbows perfectly, being moulded to shape, gives a secure grip on any surface, protects the elbows, saves clothes and is adjustable. A patent has also been taken out for a rubber hand shield, in the form of half glove or mitten, this having holes in it increases the security of grip owing to slight vacuum created.

*German Import  
Duty on Tea*

The present duty on Tea imported into Germany is Marks 2.20 (gold) per kilogram or equivalent of 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d per pound, but the German authorities have decided upon an increase to marks 3.50 (gold) per kilogram or the equivalent of 1s/8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per English pound, and although this has not yet been enforced it may be at any moment.



*Unbreakable  
Petrol Tank*

Some time ago prizes were offered by the Air-Ministry for the invention of a petrol tank for aeroplanes which should be unbreakable in event of a crash and should not leak when pierced by bullets. The first prize was won by a thin steel tank enclosed in a rubber cover. The joints of the tank are welded and the rubber envelope, which is detachable, is in one piece. To test the ability of the tank to withstand crashing, it was mounted in an imitation fuselage, together with a block of concrete to represent the engine. The complete contrivance was suspended on a runway and let loose at a predetermined height. Even after this searching test the steel tank did not leak although it was badly crumpled. The tank also withstood the firing tests, the rubber closing up after the passage of the bullets. A prize of £ 1400 was awarded for this tank.

*"Planters' Chronicle"  
Vol. XVI*

Bound volumes of "The Planters' Chronicle" for 1921 are now ready, and can be had for Rs. 5 each from the Offices of the U. P. A. S. I. Coimbatore. The system, introduced last year, of binding all the numbers for the year into one volume, instead of, as previously, into two half yearly volumes, has again been followed.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 29, (4th September-10th September).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, remained at headquarters during the week in order to become acquainted with current work.

2. *The Experiment Stations.* (27th Aug. to 2nd Sep. 1922.)

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, wet weather was experienced and 2.77 inches of rain recorded. Forking and Sickle weeding were carried on as permitted by the weather. Regulating shade, suckering and weeding were done where necessary.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, a total rainfall of 7.13 inches was recorded. All the pruned plots flushed well and 1099 lbs. green leaf were obtained from 9.51 acres which averages 116 lbs. per acre. Pruning was started in plot 19, and the prunings disposed off by butting.

At the *Mooply Rubber Experiment Station*, 2.9 inches of rain were recorded. Tapping was continued regularly and a yield of 106½ lbs. wet sheet and 16 1/16 lbs. of wet scrap was obtained. Plot No. 16 which was rested during July and August was again brought into tapping on the 1st September, but gave no latex for the first to tappings.

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz. for week ending 2nd Sep. 1922.
1 to 12.	One third daily.	0.27
13.	Do.	0.30
14.	One third alternate days	0.42
14 a.	Half alternate days.	0.46
15.	One third daily.	0.31
17 to 19	Do.	0.26

#### REPORT NO. 30 OF 1922. (11th 17th-September).

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, left Coimbatore on the 11th, to inspect the Coffee Experiment Station at Sidapur, and tour in part of the Coffee districts in Coorg.

#### 2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (2nd to 9th September).

At the *Coffee Experiment Station*, the rainfall was light during the week only 0.73 inches being recorded. In the 2nd round, only 100 plants were used as supplies and these were mulched. *Lithosperma* has been lopped in the hybrid plots and forking is being done.

At the *Tea Experiment Station*, Peermade, the weather was fine with drizzling showers. The flush was good and 622 lbs. green leaf was obtained from 5.14 acres, an acre yield of 125 lbs. 1.85 acres were pruned and the prunings buried. Small *Desmodium* plots were hand weeded and *Tephrosia* is making better growth.



At the *Mooply Rubber Experiment Station*, there were 5 days on which rain fell totalling 1'12 inches. A yield of 126½ lbs. wet sheet and 15½ lbs. wet scrap was obtained. Tapping experiments results are as follows :—

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz. for week ending 9—9—1922.	
1 to 12.	One third daily.		0'29
13.	Do.		0'34
14.	One third alternate days.		0'50
14a.	Half alternate days.		0'58
15.	One third daily.		0'30
17 to 19.	Do.		0'24

*The Tenmalai Rubber Experiment Station*, (27th August to 9th September). The rainfall for the period totalled 3'93 inches. Tapping was interfered with by heavy rain on the 27th, 5th and 8th. Wet sheet totalled 174'93 lbs. and wet scrap 16'54 lbs. Tapping experiments yielded as follows :—

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz. for the week ending	
		2-9-1922.	9-9-1922.
1 to 14.	One third daily	0'39	0'377
15 & 18.	Half alternate days.	0'67	0'68
17	One third alternate days	0'45	0'519
16 & 19.	One third daily.	0'03	0'402
20.	Do.	0'474	0'443
24a.	Do. Evening 5 days. Morning 2 days.	0'424 Morning	0'451
24b.	Do. Morning 5 days. Evening 2 days.	0'371 Evening	0'308
24c.	Do. Evening only	0'433 ...	0'337

D. G. MUNRO,  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.  
PLANTING DISTRICTS.

### INDIAN CINCHONA BARK AND MYROBALANS.

A new volume in the series of Reports of the Indian Trade Enquiry conducted at the Imperial Institute has just been published by Mr. John Murray (price 4s). It deals with cinchona bark, the source of quinine, and myrobalans, an important tanning material.

At the present time Java has a virtual monopoly in the production of cinchona bark, its closest competitor being India which produces only about 8 per cent of the world's supply. Moreover the manufacture of quinine is largely under the control of Dutch interests, and of the 8,000,000 oz. used annually in the British Empire about 5,000,000 oz. have to be obtained from foreign sources. In view of the importance of the matter it is recommended that attempts should be made to produce in India sufficient bark to meet a much larger proportion of the Empire's requirements. Cinchona has been introduced into several tropical parts of the Empire, and the volume contains the results of examination at the Imperial Institute of cinchona bark grown in St. Helena, Tanganyika, and the Cameroons.

Myrobalans, the dried fruits of a large tree, form one of the principal tanning materials used in India and are also largely exported. The amounts reaching this country have varied in recent years from about 500,000 cwts. to over 800,000 cwts., whilst prior to the war Germany and the United States were also large importers. Particulars are given in the Report as to the trade in myrobalans, their composition, and their use by British tanners and dyers, whilst suggestions are made with respect to the future trade in this product.

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### THE TRAVANCORE RUBBER COMPANY, Ltd.,

The Travancore Rubber Company, Ltd. for the year 1921 report that after crediting to profit and loss account £ 7,043, being refund of Income Tax and E. P. D., and deducting £ 1,661 for income tax and depreciation, there was a profit of £ 3, 970. A sum of £ 10,114 was brought in, and the Directors recommended that the balance of £ 14,084 be carried forward.

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## INDO-BRITISH EMPIRE LEAGUE.

Briefly, the idea underlying the Indo-British Empire League is this: As Lord Meath has pointed out in the London "Times," India has this year been officially admitted as an equal partner in the British Empire, and has thus become an integral part of what a well-known English writer has termed the "Indo-British Commonwealth." No doubt, India has not yet attained full self-Government on the Dominion model, but her feet have been firmly set in the path of its attainment. Responsible Government is now the recognised goal of India's destiny, and the announcement of his Majesty's Government in this regard has been ratified by Parliament and accepted by the people of India. In the words of His Excellency Lord Reading, "India no longer stands outside the door when the Councils of the Empire meet, but India is present at the Conferences *taking her seat as a partner in the Empire.*" But by reason of the difference in race and language and possibly also of culture and custom, there is not to-day that perfect understanding and spirit of comradeship that should characterise citizens of the same Empire between Indians, the new partners in the Empire and Britishers both in and out of India. We are making no charge nor apportioning blame, but we merely state what we consider to be a regrettable fact. It is to remedy this defect and to bring about a better understanding and foster closer and more cordial relations between Indians and Britishers that the Indo-British Empire League is coming into existence.

To illustrate our remarks, we will just mention two examples: On the one side, when early this year a section of Indians—a section only, however numerous they might be—offered an affront to the British nation, their co partners, by declaring a boycott of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' visit, it is our firm belief that they did a piece of dis-service to India whose evil effects we are now gradually coming to feel, as will be apparent from a perusal of the recent speeches in Parliament of the Prime Minister and Earl Winterton. If those Indians to which ever political party they may have belonged, had fully understood the implications—the rights as well as the responsibilities—of their new status in the Empire and the results which their boycott would have on the relation of India with the other parts of the Empire, we venture to think they will not have made themselves responsible for such a short-sighted, nay suicidal, course of action. Our remarks will be better understood if it is remembered that no responsible Indian leader, not even Mr. Gandhi himself, has questioned the utility and the need of the British connection. And circumstanced as India is, no sane thinker could have come to any other conclusion. Also, they forgot that the Crown, the symbol of the unity of the Empire, was above politics. All this was clearly foreseen by the more moderate and thoughtful among Indians who rightly realised that the Prince was immensely popular throughout the British Empire. But their praiseworthy action though it con-

vinced those fully acquainted with this country that the heart of India is still sound and loyal to the core, yet has not proved strong enough to eradicate the unfortunate impression that the boycott has left behind in the minds of the mass of Britishers at home and abroad, who do not know the real conditions of India.

On the other hand, very strong feelings have been aroused in the minds even of those Indians who are otherwise quite well-disposed towards the Empire by reason of the harsh and unequal treatment meted out to Indians by the white settlers in certain parts of the Empire, entirely regardless of the part which India bore in the last War in defence of the Empire and her magnificent contributions thereto in men, money, and material. We admit the problem is a difficult one, but it not insuperably, given good-will and a spirit of mutual accommodation.

We have been led to make this rather extended reference, because we desire that every well-wisher of the Empire should realise clearly the intricacies of the problem and the magnitude of the issues at stake. It is not less to the interest of India than it is for the good of England that the link which binds India and England together should be still further strengthened to the mutual advantage of both and the cause of the world's progress and civilisation at large. The present narrow, provincial outlook and undue race consciousness should give place to the wider vision and the larger heart. There is far too much talk of 'superior' and 'inferior' race and of 'foreigner' and 'native' than is good for either or for the good of the Empire as a whole. The problem as well as its solution is not altogether one-sided. As the Rt. Hon. Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri said in a recent speech: "This Britanic Empire, usually called by Mr. Lloyd George, 'the Free Commonwealth of Free Nations' is not always best understood by Englishmen themselves. Perhaps it is necessary not to be an Englishman, so as to feel the great influence of this Commonwealth and to feel also its benevolence in full.....I wish it were generally recognized that it stands for one thing more than another and that is, the reconciliation of the East and the West, the bringing together in happy harmony the people of varied races and varied communities, the blending together under one law, under one sovereign, under one Imperial Parliament, the people of diverse nationalities and various cultures hitherto felt in many another political organisation to be irreconcilable and never under one flag..... Great writers, great thinkers, seers of the future tell us in solemn tones that perhaps the world to-day is moving forward at no long period to a great clash between the East and the West, between the white and coloured populations, and that clash will be marked by the shedding of more blood, by the destruction of more property and more human happiness than any clash in the story of our country, and it is not unlikely that we should hear in no long time the rumble of a mighty earthquake whereby this planet will be rudely shaken. But if only the British Commonwealth were wisely guided in its time; if



only British statesmanship which has always proved equal to the greatest emergencies proved equal to the greatest of all emergencies; if only the British Commonwealth kept its even temper in spite of ups and downs in its onward progress; there is no serious risk of this great earthquake submerging this planet." Surely, it is not unworthy even for the great British Empire to make efforts to preserve and expand the gratitude and good-will of the 315 millions of human beings in India.

At the same time, it will be necessary for Indians to make it plain to England and through her to the Empire outside that regrettable incidents of the kind animadverted on above will not recur again. Also, India has yet an enormous leeway to make up socially and educationally, in sanitation, agriculture and Industries, before she can claim favourable comparison with the efficiency already attained by the people at Home and in the Dominions. After this world-devastating war when the whole world is engaged in repairing its ravages and reconstructing, is it good for India that she should be found still engaged in the vortex of an agitation? The working out of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms for all they are worth is the only sure and steady path that will lead to our salvation.

Above all, we must make it clear to our fellow-subjects of the British community domiciled and resident in India that the cry "India for Indians" does not mean that there is no place for the Britisher in India, enjoying equal opportunities and equality of status with Indians themselves, and that in the self-governing India of the future, there is not the slightest danger of insecurity for the British capital invested in this country. Indeed it will be evident to all thoughtful minds that without the Britishers' close and cordial co-operation, real progress in India cannot be rapid, steady and continuous.

It is therefore to promote this close and cordial co-operation of Indians and Britishers' throughout the Empire and to bring about a better understanding among them that the Indo-British Empire League is coming into existence. In the words of Lord Peel, the Secretary of State for India, it will be our aim to quicken the spirit of harmony and good-will generated by the recognition of "the new status of equal partnership won by the India through her efforts and sacrifices during the war in the Councils of the British Commonwealth of nations, and to bring home to the British people the evidence of India's worthiness of her new status and her consciousness of common ideals and higher interests which she shares with them as an equal partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations."

The Indo-British Empire League is thus a non-party organisation and any one irrespective of his or her political opinions can join, provided he or she subscribes to the creed of the League, viz., faith in the British connection and in the fulfilment of India's destiny within the Empire and as an equal partner thereof. Our efforts to consolidate the sentiments of loyalty to the Royal Crown of England, the visible symbol of the Empire, will we trust strike a responsive chord

in the hearts of the millions of the people of this country, to whom whether Hindus or Mahomedans, loyalty to the throne is a religious duty, sanctified by immemorial usage and traditions.

It is also proposed to establish a Club wherein Indians and Britishers can rub shoulders together and mix on a basis of equality. After all, there is nothing like intimate social intercourse and the resultant knowledge of each other's point of view to break down the barriers of race or caste prejudice and to promote feelings of harmony and good-will. The Club will also serve as a meeting-ground for tourists and other visitors from Overseas, who will thus be brought into touch with the best minds in India, British and Indian.

It is also proposed to issue a monthly Magazine the organ of the Indo-British Empire League, with the view to promote a better knowledge of India among Britishers and *vice versa*, thus forming a link of the Empire connecting India with Britain and the Dominions. Another object of the Indo-British Empire League is to carry the message of the Empire to the boys and girls in our schools and Colleges by means of suitable text-books, the setting of prize-essays, etc.

It is also hoped that the Indo-British Empire League while engaged in its work of propagating the Empire idea among the Indian people will also be able to carry on alongside educative work among them, teaching them the blessings of sanitation and hygiene, the evils of untouchability and purdah, and the benefits to be derived from co-operation in agriculture and in their economic activities generally. And in the same way as we shall work for the better understanding of the various races living in India, it will also be our aim to promote better relations between Capital and Labour and between Landlords and Tenants, it being recognised that any catastrophic changes forcibly sought to be introduced in these fields will, no less than in the realm of politics, produce more harm than good, interfere with the peaceful and steady progress of our trade and industries and ultimately upset our economic equilibrium.

It is the earnest hope of the organisers that during the transition stage through which India is now passing, there is real and urgent need for an organisation like the Indo-British Empire League.

Those interested are invited to write to the *Hon. Organiser and General Secretary, Indo-British Empire League, Simla (India)*, with their suggestions as to the best methods by which the objects of League can be speedily achieved.

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We publish the above by request and have been asked to review same, but without further details as to how it is proposed to work such an Association, although such cosmopolitan Societies, restricted to prescribed areas, can only conduce to a better mutual understanding between Britains and Indians, we do not follow how this Association, which is apparently to embrace the whole of India, expects to achieve its object.

H. W.



**DRAFT, TARE AND SHORT WEIGHT IN COFFEE SHIPPED TO LONDON.**

A correspondent has writren us, that he has a recollection of correspondence in the "Chronicle" regarding the ever increasing short weights in Coffee shipped to London from Malabar Ports. That some planter was good enough to refer the matter to London and that results of his enquiries, which dealt with the whole matter of Brokers, and sellers Customs as to Tare, Draft, Discount etc., were published in pamphlet form by the "Chronicle" some time between 1900 and 1911 and he asks for copy of the pamphlet.

We have failed to trace the matter at all in Books of Proceedings or the "Chronicle". Can any reader give us any information of the pamphlet reffered to?

H. WADDINGTON,  
SECRETARY.

**BYGONES II.***Who was the first Planter?*

We have always thought that it was "Anjarakandi" Brown, but in the burial ground at Tangacherry there is a grave stone to Jacques Andre de Vallois, "A Planter" who died at Quilon on 24th April 1810. What did he plant? and for how many years was he planting before he died.

Mr. Murdoch Brown was a merchant at Mahe who on the fall of that settlement joined the East India Company. In 1797 he originated a scheme to open up at Anjarakandi in the Chirikal taluk, a plantation of coffee, cinnamon, pepper, nutmeg, cassia, sugarcane and sandal wood. •He was appointed overseer and manager and by an agreement made on the 31st December of that year, he agreed that if the Honourable Court of Directors disapproved, he would take over the plantation on his own account and pay the Company all the money, principal and interest, expended thereon. In 1799 the terms of the agreement were enforced and the plantation which the Company had found too expensive was handed over to Mr. Brown on a lease for 99 years.

On the 11th January 1801 Dr. Francis Buchanan visited the estate and recorded in his report,—“Coffee trees are in a very flourishing condition and many prove a valuable acquisition. As yet however they have not arrived at the age when they produce fruit.”

But it was by no means a quiet life on the plantation, the nairs gave constant trouble and shortly before Dr. Buchanan arrived the officer in charge of the detachment sent to guard the estate had been shot dead outside the Bungalow and in 1803 the plantation was devastated by Moplahs under the Pychy Rajah and Mr. Brown claimed remission of the amount he had agreed to pay.

Since then the descendents of Mr. Brown have remained in undisturbed possession of the estate although it no longer maintains its character as a plantation of special products. It is now an ordinary Malabar Jenman estate, albeit a very well managed one.

Coffee from the estate appears to have been introduced into the Wynaad at Manantody some time before 1825, although it was not till nearly twenty years later that any large area was brought under that cultivation.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion  
of its Correspondents)*

69, Devonshire Road,  
Southampton, 17th August 22.

Dear Sir,

I enclose a cutting from the "Daily Telegraph" relating to the death of my old friend and colleague Ralph Lester. He was, as you are aware, a patron, under the old rules of the Planters' Benevolent Fund, and I am sure a very large circle of planters will mourn with me in the loss of this splendid soldier-planter and friend.

Ralph Lester came to Eldorado (Mundakayam) in 1913 and at once became a popular member from little community. He had a wonderful charm, great musical talent and undoubted planting ability. Later, on being demobilized, he was for a time acting manager and the records of the Mundakayam Planters' Association bear witness, I am sure, to his value as a member of that body.

His untimely end has been a great shock to me personally as it must have been to many others. If this catches the eye of the officials I trust the Mundakayam P. A., will take steps to perpetuate his memory in some way for there has never been a more upright, worthy and in every way deserving resident of that famous district than Ralph Lester.

Yours &c.,  
EDWIN VINCENT.

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# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

*Mercantile Bank of India.* The Manager writes to inform us that the Directors of the Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd. have declared an interim dividend at the rate of ten per cent per annum, less Income Tax for the half year ending 30th June last.

*Coffee in Costa Rica* The latest cabled advices from Costa Rica are unfavourable, and it is now certain that the growing crop will be considerably below that recently harvested. Costa Rican planters are refusing to sell crops in advance to the Americans as they anticipate better offers later on.

*Labour Rules.* We are continually receiving requests from planters for copies of the Labour Rules, these have for the last two years been published as an appendix to the Book of Proceedings, but were so altered and added to at the last Annual Meeting that we have thought it advisable to publish them in full in this weeks issue.

Planters will have noticed with interest that Mr. D. T. Chadwick is vacating the office of Indian Trade Commissioner in London on promotion to be Secretary to the Government of India, Commerce Department. He will be succeeded temporarily by Mr. Frank Noyce, also of the Madras Civil Service. The permanent appointment from February next goes to Mr. H. A. F. Lindsay who has been for some years Director General of Commercial Intelligence in India.

The Agent for India of the Indian Tea Cess Committee has written the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. that certain merchants in Madura, are anxious to get into touch with Tea estates, which would be willing to supply 5,000 lbs Broken Pekoe Souchong and Pekoe Fannings per month, packed in lead lined chests of about sixty pounds each. Satisfactory arrangements as to payment will be made, and he is willing to add the names of estates who would take up the business to the list of suppliers, which he distributes to buyers under the Indian Tea Cess Campaign.

We note from a Canadian paper, that the United Distributing Company of Victoria, British Columbia has secured the agency for export trade in "Stimuplant" and "Farmogerm" to certain markets, including the Federated Malay States, Australia, India and Ceylon. It is explained that "Stimuplant" is a highly concentrated fertilizer in tablet form and is largely used on Tea and Coffee Plantations in India and Ceylon, while "Farmogerm" a bacterial culture for the inoculation of legumes, is shipped to the Far East for the inoculation of the Soya Bean.

Amendments brought forward in the House of Commons by Mr. Trevelyan Thomson to reduce the duty on Cocoa from £ 1-8-0 to £ 1-3-4 per cwt. and by Mr. Foot to reduce the duty on Coffee from £ 1-8-0 to £ 1-1-0 were both defeated and the resolutions proposed by Mr. Neil McLean to omit altogether the clauses imposing any duty at all on Cocoa and Coffee were negatived by 189 to 72.

In their report for 1921 the Directors of Rubber Roadways Ltd., the Company formed under the auspices of the Rubber Growers' Association to foster the use of rubber for roads, state that the portion of the roadway laid in the High Street, Southwark, eighteen months ago, with the improved rubber block, vulcanised on to an expanded metal plate, continues to give satisfactory results. A less expensive method of attachment has been evolved, and it is intended to proceed with the laying of an experimental area as soon as possible.



## UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.

### LABOUR RULES.

I. Each District Association willing to accept these Labour Rules shall intimate to the U. P. A. S. I. through the Secretary its adherence thereto.

II. Every District Association shall appoint a Standing Labour Committee to whom questions arising under these Labour Rules may be referred by the Executive Committee of the U. P. A. S. I.

III. All complaints as to any breach of these Labour Rules shall be made through the Secretary to the Executive Committee of the U. P. A. S. I. who shall appoint any three members not resident in the different districts concerned and whose decision shall be final.

IV. All claims under written contracts, Receipts, Pro-notes, and Bonds properly executed shall have priority over those made under verbal agreements.

V. No labour supplier, maistry, kangany, or writer while still in debt to an estate shall be given any open letter, paper or chit of any kind, giving him permission to accept employment or advance for himself or his coolies elsewhere on payment of his debt.

VI. No advance shall be given or agreement entered into with any applicant for maistry's work who is not at the time under contract with the estate to which he applies without first referring to the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department in charge of the district in which the applicant resides, and in the event of such applicant being reported by the Labour Department to be already indebted to or under contract with an estate subscribing to these rules it shall be incumbent on the estate to which the applicant has applied not to employ, advance or enter into contract with such applicant without the consent of the other estate; and if any person in contravention of this rule shall after 1st October, 1920, be employed or advanced, then the estate so employing or advancing him shall cease to employ him further or shall take over his debt at the option of the estate which the Labour Department reports the applicant to be indebted to or under contract with.

VII. Should it be proved that a maistry advanced by a subscribing member contrary to the advice of the Labour Department interferes detrimentally with the labour of a registered maistry such subscribing members shall pay a penalty.

VIII. Any member of a District Association subscribing to these Rules offering a commission, bribe or special inducements of any sort to an Agent of the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department for any purpose whatever shall pay a penalty.

IX. All sums collected by way of fines and penalties under these rules shall be credited to the General Funds of the U. P. A. S. I.

X. No District Association or Member of a District Association shall raise the pay of coolies without giving two months notice of their intentions to the Labour Department for circulation to other District Associations.

XI. No Member, or any person recruiting on his behalf shall henceforth recruit any labour whatsoever in a Planting District other than that in which the estate for which such labour is being recruited is situated, unless previous permission has been granted by the Association of such Planting District through the Labour Department. Any member acting in contravention of this Rule shall pay a penalty.

#### *Definition of Planting Districts.*

*Anamalais.* The Hill portion of the Pollachi Taluq of the Coimbatore District.

*Coorg.* The Province of Coorg.

*Kanan Devans.* The Devicolam Taluq of the Devicolam Division.

*Mysore.* Kadur District and Munzarabad, Belur, Alur sub-taluqs of Hassan District. The Billigirirangan Hills west of the road connecting Hasanur-Bailur-Lokkanahalli to junction of the road from Kollegal to Harur, from that point east of a line connecting it with it with Arepalaiyam and on to Yeragampalli-Atakalpur and road from there to Hasanur.

*Nilgiris.* The Nilgiri District.

*Shevaroy.* The Shevaroy Hills west of the road from Salem to Uttangarai.

XII. In these rules the word Maistry shall be interpreted to include sub-maistries and sub-kanganies and all members should register these latter in the same way as Maistries are registered. For purpose of these Rules "Sub-Maistry" or "Sub-Kangany" means any person entering into a contract with a Maistry or Kangany for the supply of not less than ten labourers to work on an estate.

XIII. If in the case of any workman, labour supplier, Maistry, Kangany or Writer it is proved that, while under an advance to an employer in an Indian State, he is working on an estate in British India, or *vice versa*, and that service of a warrant is not permissible by law, the estate on which the defaulter is found shall cease to employ him unless the debt due is taken over or paid off.

By resolution carried unanimously at the Annual General Meeting in 1919 it was decided, that District Associations be recommended to limit the penalties under these rules to Rs. 25.



## WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB ON  
WEDNESDAY THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 1922.

Prseent,—Messrs B. M. Behr (Chairman), J. E. Bisset, B. Malcolm, W. G. Craig, E. E. Eyre, S. H. Powell, A. D. McBain and R. W. M. Hay (Honorary Secretary).

Visitors. —Messrs D. W. Lloyd Warren and R. B. N. Swayne.

The Proceedings of the last meeting were confirmed.

*Annual Meeting U. P. A. S. I.* The Chairman read the report made by the Delegates to the Bangalore Meeting and a hearty vote of thanks for the trouble they had taken and the exhaustive report they had made was proposed by Mr. Malcolm, seconded by Mr. Bisset and carried.

*Vayitri Deputy Tahsildar's Office.* Read letter from the Revenue Divisional Officer with reference to abolishing the Deputy Tahsildar's Office at Vayitri. The following resolution was carried,—

“That this Association strongly opposes the proposal to abolish the Deputy Tahsildar's Office at Vayitri, as the absence of a Magistrate from the Vayitri-Meppadi Districts would be a very severe handicap on the residents.”

The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write and place the views of the Association before the Revenue Divisional Officer.

*Correspondence.* Read letters from R. A. Grahm Esqr. C. S. I., I. C. S. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras re formal commissions and decorations. The former, he informs us, can be obtained by demobilized Indian Army Reserve Officers on application to the Military Secretary, Army Head Quarters, Simla.

*New Member.* Mr. R. B. N. Swayne was elected a member of the Association.

*District Boards.* The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write and ask the District Magistrate, whether there were any regulations governing the carriage of timber over District Roads; pointing out the immense damage that was being done by the cartage of logs of excessive weight and bulk, especially during the heavy monsoon.

*Conservancy.* The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to the President of the Taluk Board drawing his attention to the relaxation of all conservancy work in the Meppadi Bazar, which is now in a disgraceful condition.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

B. M. BEHR  
Chairman.

R. W. M. HAY  
Honorary Secretary.

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BRAZIL.

## THE STATE OF MINAS GERAES.

We make the following extracts from the Message of the President of Minas Geraes, as published in the "*International Review of Science and Practice of Agriculture*, Rome.

Value in milreis of the exports from the State were, Agricultural Industry 195, 196, 702; Stock-breeding 182, 234, 482; Manufacturing Industries 43, 980, 422; Extractive Industries 32, 948, 508.

The increased value of the chief Brazilian products during the war induced a considerable rise in exports, and hence a great influx of capital, which was used, by preference, in the development of agricultural production: enlarging plantations, the introduction of new crops, the purchase of machines, etc.

The traditional crops of *maize*, *haricot beans* and *yams* are continually developing, and motor ploughing has already been introduced into certain zones.

*Coffee* is still the chief source of public and private wealth. *Rice* appears to have found conditions that suit it perfectly in the regions on either side of the Rio Grande, as well as at Uberabinia, Araguary and other centres. The rice fields on the banks of the Rio Grande already form one of the granaries of the country, and their importance will still further increase when transport is rendered easier by the works undertaken to ensure the navigability of the Rio Pardo from its mouth as far as the Station of Jaguará. Rice growing is a very favourite industry in other parts of the South and West of the State from which the crop totalled 750,000 bags.

*Sugar Cane* is constantly extending and is very successful. New modern sugar Factories are being built. As alcohol is very heavily taxed, the cane are more used for sugar making than for distillation, the export in 1920 trebled that for 1919.

Government have engaged specialists for the purpose of restoring the *Tobacco-growing* industry of the State which reached its height in the middle of the last century, but has since declined because the cord tobacco of the State of Minas Geraes has been supplanted by the lighter coloured and more delicate leaf-tobacco, produced in Bahia and Rio Grande do Sul.



The efforts made to develop *fruit growing* have been crowned with success: the fruits of Barbacena, Maria da Fe, Silvestre Ferraz etc. are fully equal in colour and flavour to the European products: the State already exports large quantities of plums, pears, apples, grapes, peaches, mangoes and pine apples.

Everything makes it probable that *cotton* will become one of the States permanent sources of revenue, as soon as the proper methods of cultivation and preparation of the crop are adopted, and Govern-

ment have drawn up a scheme for establishing a Cotton-Growing College in the region and station for the selection and distribution of cotton seed,

Other crops worthy of mention are *potatoes* (chiefly in the Southern part of the State); *Cacao* on the frontiers of Bahia; *Tea* in the neighbourhood of Oura Preto; *onions*, *groundnuts*, *kitchen garden plants* etc.

In order to encourage the use of agricultural machines, the State imports them, and allows the agriculturists to buy them at cost price with free transport by rail. In 1920, 1380 agricultural machines were imported, 281 apparatuses for destroying ants, 2168 diggers etc.

The Government occupies itself with the purchase within the State and outside its frontiers, of sound selected seed, which it sells at cost price. For re-afforestation the State gives each agriculturist cuttings up to the number of 5000 carriage free by rail and will supply more, with sole stipulation, that the "Secretaria da Agricultura" be informed of the results obtained.

Similar liberal assistance is given to the Stock Breeding Industry among other grants is that of barbed wire at cost price and carriage free.

In order to encourage the laying down of pastures, the Government gives gratuitously, on request, seeds of "*Panicum minutiflorus*", or "*Andropogon rufus*" up to the weight of ten kilogram; and supplies larger quantities at very low prices.

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## DISPERSAL OF FUNGI.

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BY C. S. GOPALASWAMI RAO.

The mildew disease of grapes, "Mahali" disease or "Koleroga" of arecanut, the cholam smut and the wheat rust are some examples of serious diseases of crops of which reports are often received from cultivators and with which many of our readers are possibly familiar. In the suddenness of their appearance and the quickness with which they increase and spread, they resemble infectious epidemics like small-pox or rinderpest and strike terror into the mind of the ryot. He is at a loss to explain what the cause of these diseases is and how they are able to spread with such rapidity, and generally attributes them either to an "ill wind" or to a curse of the Almighty.

The real cause of diseases of this class is a low organism known as a Fungus—of which the common mushroom is a familiar example. The fungus belongs to the plant kingdom and is in essence a plant. Like plants, it increases vegetatively by branching, which culminates in the production of seeds known as spores. Just as plants can usually be propagated by cuttings, the fungi can be reproduced from bits of the mycelium or their vegetative body. Unlike the true plants which are capable of deriving their nourishment from the salts dissolved in the soil-water and from the air, fungi are degenerate plants which are incapable of such an independent existence; they can subsist only on decaying organic substances, being then known as saprophytes, or may be actual parasites in the living tissues of animals or plants. They are therefore unable to spread from place to place of their own accord in their vegetative phase, but man, with his usual policy of meddlesomeness with the laws of Nature, has in many ways helped the spread of injurious Fungi even in their vegetative phase, often to the great detriment of his own interests. He has collected innumerable kinds of plants tubers, bulbs, and seedlings from the ends of the earth, either to satisfy his tastes or to promote his interests, but has at the same time unconsciously introduced along with them various unknown diseases of a serious nature. Sometimes he has personally proved the active agent in the spread of diseases, as has been actually demonstrated in the case of the Bud-rot of the



Palmyrah, where it is the knife of the toddy-tapper, as he goes from tree to tree using the same knife on diseased and healthy ones alike, that carries the hyphae and causes the spread of the disease.

It is however, chiefly by means of the spores—its minute seeds—that the fungus secures its spread. Just as most plants ultimately produce flowers and seeds thereby perpetuating their race, all fungi eventually produce their “fruit bodies,” whence the extremely small spores are set free. Each species of fungus has its own peculiar form of fructifications and its own kind of spores, but all the spores agree in being of microscopic size and in being light. In the group of rust fungi, the spores exhibit fine processes which enable them to anchor themselves on any object they may come across in their voyage through the air. Similarly, the spores of the Erisyphae have long appendages with hooked ends. Some of the mildew fungi, possess a string of spores on erect hyphae, whereby the spores are scattered in all directions at the slightest disturbance.

In the aquatic family of Pythiaceæ, spores are produced in a sac known as a “Sporangium” from which the spores—which possess two “flagella”—emerge and swim about when placed in a watery medium. The much-dreaded “Mahali” disease of the West Coast is an example of the fungus of this nature. The disease spreads only in the time of the South West Monsoon when as the heavy down-pour of rain splashes between the Areca leaves, the swimming spores get distributed from trees to tree and from fruit to fruit. A recognition of this factor by the Mycological section has led to the institution of a spraying campaign, whereby the immense loss of arecanuts has been to a great degree saved.

In the case of the soil fungi, such as those causing “wilt” fruit bodies are likely to be carried by irrigation water from plot to plot and also by surface-wash after heavy rain. Dr. Butler has found evidence of the possibility of the spores of the “Red-rot” fungus of sugarcane being distributed from one plot to another through the medium of irrigation water.

*Wind and air currents* are very important agents in the dispersal of fungus spores. Most spores are minute and extremely light and may be borne long distances by the wind, and instances are known where *rust* spores were found carried to a distance of 5

to 8 miles. Some of the fungi have peculiarly modified fruit bodies to enable them to set free their spores into the air. In certain fungi known as "Puff-balls", they have spherical bodies growing at or just below ground-level, from which the spores are thrown out in "Puffs" whenever there is a current of air. The total number of spores in a "Puff-ball" is calculated to be about 7,500,000,000. In another type of fungus known as "Ge-asters" or 'earth stars', the outer coat, when the fruit body is ripe, splits from the apex into a number of pointed lobes giving them the appearance of stars, and the mass of spores contained inside is allowed to escape into the air. In the common mushroom—the lower surface of the umbrella is divided into a number of thin plates or "gills" from which spores are produced; and the vastness of the number of spores produced may be judged when it is computed that an *Agaricus*—a mushroom—can produce 4,000,000,000 spores, which if distributed uniformly will provide one for each square inch in an area of one square mile. In this connection it is interesting to note Buller's observations that "Fungus spores possess specific gravity and are charged with electricity—positive or negative—properties which are of use to the spores in enabling them to get advantageous location for germination."

Birds form another agency whereby dispersal is helped. The migration of birds is a very well known phenomenon and some are known to breed in summer in Siberia and to travel as far south as Australia and New Zealand in winter. Though it is still open to doubt whether birds can carry fungus spores for appreciably long distances and spread diseases in distant countries, the fact remains that they can do so where distances are short.

Insects are another class which function as important agents in the spread of fungi. In fact the fungi make use of the services of insects, attracting them by catering to their varied fancies. Some are enticed by bright colours, others are attracted by the possession of strong odours, while yet others by sweet secretions. An instance of the last class is furnished by the sugary diseases of cholam (*Sphacelia sorghi*) and other grasses, where the fungus, so acts on the grain as to cause the exudation of a sort of honey-coloured sweet liquid containing multitudes of spores. In some fungi all the three devices are found combined.



Quadrupeds also have their share in the dispersal of spores. They feed on grass attacked by fungi and on certain kinds of fungi, such as "truffles", and cast out their spores, which pass unaffected through their alimentary canal with their droppings and thus aid in their dispersal. By actual feeding experiments, it has been found that the oospores of *Sclerospora* on sorghum (leaf shredding disease) pass along with dung unharmed by the digestive juices of calves. Goats, mice, rats, toads and slugs have been found to function similarly in the case of other certain fungi.

It will thus be apparent that fungi have evolved wonderful methods of securing the distribution of their spores and the intelligent ryot will therefore understand the importance of clean and careful cultivation, which by itself is often able to ward off an outbreak. When diseases do break out, the Mycological section of the Agricultural Department will, on application, be able to demonstrate effective remedial measures in most cases. "Prevention is better than cure" and "a stitch in time saves nine" are wonderful old maxims with as much force to-day as ever and the ryot would be tangibly benefited if he is guided by these words of wisdom, at least as far as fungus diseases are concerned.

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### MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS Limited.

For the period from the 13th July 1921, the date of the incorporation of the Company, to the 31st March 1922, the Directors report drastic restriction of crop. In addition to the usual two months' rest during wintering period, seven out of the Company's twelve estates had not been tapped since 1st September, and restricted output only had been obtained from the remaining five estates, so that the crop was 681,091 lb. Including upkeep of all mature areas the cost of production was 11.84 d. per lb. and the average net sale price, including estimated value of the unsold portion was, 7.43 d. per lb. The tea crop was 1,175,386 lb. harvested at a cost of 7.54 d. per lb. The average net price realized was 10.95 d. per lb. The cardamoms harvest was 35,497 lb. at a cost of 1 s. 2.63 d. per lb. The average net price realized was 2s. 4.63 d. per lb. Trading profit amounted to £. 17,706/- Restriction of output of rubber was being continued and no reliable estimate could be given. The tea estimate was 2,081,000 lb, and that of cardamoms 65,000 lb. The trading profit was £. 17,706/ less administration charges etc., £. 2,778, and interest £. 7,575, leaving £. 7,353 to be carried forward, subject to liability for income tax.

## U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS SHIPMENT OF SOUTH INDIAN PRODUCE during AUGUST 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	United Kingdom.	Europe.	Asia.	Africa.	America.	Australia.
<b>TEA</b>								
Madras.	...	...	190,767	300	...	...	...	...
Calicut.	15,849	...	453,838	1,400	...	16,130	2,850	...
Cochin.	16,540	...	1,042,705	...	...	1,400	...	...
Tuticorin.	...	154,190	946,739	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppy.	...	8,720	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	32,389	162,910	2,934,049	1,700	...	17,530	2,850	...
Previously.	82,411	882,928	8,948,492	5,680	1,454	13,535	760,809	403
Total Pounds since 1-4-22	114,800	1,045,838	11,581,548	7,380	1,454	31,065	763,659	403
<b>COFFEE</b>								
Madras.	460	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Cochin.	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	78
Bombay &c.	...	23	...	...	26	8	...	...
Totals.	460	23	...	...	28	19	...	78
Previously.	8,134	21	32,720	63,073	6,832	461	2,160	7,082
Total since 1-4-22	8,594	44	32,720	63,073	6,860	480	2,160	7,160
<b>RUBBER</b>								
Calicut.	...	12,379	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	183,818	...	107,385	...	...	...	133,222	...
Tuticorin.	...	107,792	9,508	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppy.	...	19,412	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	183,818	139,583	116,893	...	...	...	133,222	...
Previously.	383,708	596,792	1,423,493	121,236	...	...	698,027	...
Total since 1-1-22Pounds	567,526	736,375	1,540,386	121,236	...	...	831,249	...



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

*Mercantile Bank of India.* We much regret that in the Notes published last week, the dividend declared by the Mercantile Bank of India was stated as ten per cent for the half year ending 30th June last, where as it should have been sixteen per cent less Income Tax.

*Book of Proceedings.* We have failed to better the record of 1920, when the Book of Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting was issued and sent to Planters within a month of the closing of the Meeting; owing to a large amount of sickness among the staff of the "*Madras Mail*" there has been some delay in getting the book out, but final proofs have been passed and we expect to receive the Books this week.

*S. I. P. Cricket Club.* On the occasion of the match between the Madras Cricket Club versus The Planters at Coimbatore on the 29th-30th September and 1st October the opportunity was taken of inaugurating the South Indian Planters' Cricket Club, report of the first meeting of which appears elsewhere in this issue, it is hoped that this will be well

supported by all Planters. Two donations of Rs. 100 each have already been received and twelve members joined before the Planters team left Coimbatore.

*Rubber-eating Insects.* The "Straits Times" states that the cover of electric wiring in St. Peter's Church, Singapore, was recently discovered to have been attacked by some insect. The cotton covering of the rubber insulations was perforated at short intervals by small holes and practically the whole of the rubber had been removed. If a rubber eating bug has appeared, the danger to rubber plantations is obvious. The bug may take to drinking latex.

*The London Market.* All Tea with good liquor or appearance met keen competition and made full prices. A small quantity of fine Assam sold up to 5s/10½d for Broken and 3s/8d for Leaf grades. Common kinds were irregular and easier. Flavoury Darjeelings were readily taken at 3s/- to 4s/- per pound. Offerings of Coffee during the week ending 9th September were small and the quality left much to be desired. Spot quotations for Black Pepper are unchanged, with forward prices rather lower.

*Upasi Buying Agency.* A revised list of the firms giving special discounts to members of the Buying Agency has just been issued and now includes some fifty firms and Hotels in Southern India, among the latter we are glad to see the Glenview Hotel of Coonoor has come into line with those of Messrs. Spencer & Co. and the St. Mark Hotel, Bangalore.

*Director Labour Dept.* Major Brock after completing an inspection of the Coimbatore Division and visiting every agent in Coimbatore, Salem, Trichinopoly and Malabar, has now left for the South, where he will inspect the agents of the Srivilliputtur and Palamcottah Divisions and is not expected to return to Head Quarters till latter end of next month.

*Travancore Contrasts* In the last number received of the Travancore Government Gazette we find the Director of Agriculture gives notice that Government have sanctioned a reward of Rs. 500 for the invention of a motor boat tractor plough, suitable for ploughing punja lands under two to four feet of water. In the same issue the Maramath Engineer calls for tenders for the construction of a Car for the Vadasserri Krishnaswami Temple, the total approximate cost of which is estimated at Rs. 21,800, and is to include the carving and polishing of images of horses, elephants and demons. The Controller of Patents notifies grants for invention of an electric Sewing Machine and improved process for manufacture of veneers and splints from bamboo and like growths, the latter we understand are with a view to match making.



**LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.**

COIMBATORE DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER. 1922.

*Weather.* Coimbatore District has had no rain and there is a shortage of water. The tanks have and are drying up quickly; the Cauvery River at Bhavani was noticed to have decreased to such an extent, that the volume of water was approaching that of the dry season. This, I presume, was not only caused by the lack of rain in the District, but from heavy tapping of the river for irrigation. The South West wind was dropped and the temperature is going up.

In the Malabar District, the rainfall has been heavy. The Monsoon ceased early in the last month.

*Labour.* The entraining and despatching of coolies has practically ceased, bar the coolies of maistries who were advanced late in the season. The coolies left in the low country are being got together by the Ryots for harvesting, which in some places has already started. Once again I express, that in my opinion, recruiting from Attur side in the Salem District is most un-advisable. Attur and surrounding country lies in a valley, between the Sheveroy and the Kolimalai Hills, hence, though there is a little rain, the agricultural work is extensive owing to water being near the surface. All the work is done by irrigation from wells and all the later contain water from anything between 10-20 feet below the surface. In other parts of the Tamil District water is deficient for irrigation, thus, not so much land is under cultivation this year and Estates ought not to find any difficulty in having enough labour.

*Crops.* Paddy in Malabar will be a good crop and the harvest of the same has started in some places.

Paddy, in the Tamil District is not at all good.

Ragi, will yield a normal harvest per acre, but owing to late and lack of rain, much land was not planted up.

Cumbu; this crop varies considerably, between Coimbatore and Gobichettipalayam via Tiruppur, it is an average crop. Going from Gobichettipalayam, Erode, Bhavani to Salem it gets steadily worse.

Ground-nut, is being harvested and is a good crop.

*Wages* on the whole may be taken as annas 8 and annas 10 women and men respectively; the harvesting of ground-nut being the important exception. In this occupation, the men can earn as much as Rs. 1/3/0 per day for digging, the women earning annas 12 for picking up the nut. In the Malabar District, the wages on the coast are lower than those inland, this being due to the coast having a thicker population.

*Prices of Grains.* The price of paddy is high in both Malabar and the Tamil Districts and, in some places in the Salem District

unattainable by the poorer people. However this is expected to change for the better as soon as the coming harvest is in.

### POLLACHI SHANDY PRICES.

Grains	per bag of measures	Cost
Table Rice	53	Rs. 19—0—0
Rice, medium grade	53	Rs. 15—0—0
„ Inferior	53	Rs. 13—0—0
Cholam	53	Rs. 9—0—0
Ragi	53	Rs. 6—0—0
Doll superior grade	55	Rs. 18—0—0
„ Inferior	48	Rs. 15—8—0
Pararoo	53	Rs. 15—8—0
Black Gram	53	Rs. 15—0—0
Horse Gram	53	Rs. 11—8—0
Corriander	53	Rs. 9—0—0

**Health.** Malabar District-good.

Tamil „ -Plague is bad in Coimbatore and surrounding villages. Otherwise the health is all right.

J. H. BENNET,  
Superintendent.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

#### REPORT FOR AUGUST 1922.

**Coffee Experiment Station.** The total rainfall recorded during the month was 7.36 inches as against 14.11 inches for the period last year. Most of the rain fell during the latter part of the month.

Slight traces of *Hemelia Vastratrix* have appeared on the low lying plots Nos. 22, 24 A, 24 B and 13, but on the whole, plants are looking well and young foliage is coming rapidly. The growth of the Kent's selection and Jackson's Hybrid is good. This year's supplies of which 1050 have been planted during the season have taken hold and a pair of fresh leaves have been put forth since planting.

The berries from the January blossom showers are almost developed to their full size. In plot No. 3 (collar pruned area) about 20 of the stumps have put out new suckers, some are already  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet high. Some of these stumps have been over burnt and will have to be replaced by supplies.

Disease, on the whole, is less noticeable this year than in previous years. This, of course, may be due to climatic conditions or to successful manuring and liming. It remains to be seen whether leaf diseases will appear later on. Sprayed plots are looking well and no disease has appeared as yet.



Green manure crops in plots No. 26 and 27 have come away well. *Crotalaria semperflorens* sown in October 1921 is about 10—12 feet high now. It has branched well covering the ground and keeping down weeds, but it has not flowered or seeded yet. The same variety sown this year looks promising.

*Cassia Hirsuta* : in the area sown this year looks well, but does not seem to have the branching capacity of the plot which was cut.

*Desmodium rufescens* : is a new introduction to the Station. Germination was good, but the plants have been considerably thinned out by rabbits. The growth is not thick enough to keep down weeds.

**Tea Experiment Station.** 24.48 inches of rain fell during the month as against 31.03 inches fell in the corresponding period of last year. The flush at the beginning of the month was poor, but gradually improved. Total crop reached 4,010 lbs. off 14.61 acres, a yield of 274.46 lbs. per acre.

Planting up was done in Plots 24 and 28. Of the Green Manure crops, *Crotalaria semperflorens*, *Crotalaria striata* and *Tephrosia*, only the last shows any growth and even there it is rather poor. The heavy rains seem to have been rather much for them. *Indigofera* cuttings have established themselves and the transplanted *Desmodium* is coming away well.

*Helopeltis* : did not make its appearance anywhere on the Station.

	Green leaf	Yield per acre.	
	in lbs.	August.	July.
1st plucking	895	61.2	60.8
2nd plucking	1449	99.2	42.4
3rd plucking	1651	113.0	47.3
4th plucking	498	34.0	

**Mooply Rubber Experiment Station.** A fall of 119.29 inches of rain was recorded (as against 31.42 in August 1921) distributed over 27 days.

The rubber trees are again suffering from leaf-fall which appeared towards the end of the month, but the attack is lighter than that from May-July. The attack of *Phytophthora* in the selection nursery has stopped and new growth is appearing. Efforts were made to collect some more seed from the selected trees to make up for the deficiency caused by the deprivations of the enthusiast who misappropriated the first lot, but none was obtained.

The Heneratagoda seedlings raised from seed obtained last year were planted out 17' x 17' on the 25th August.

**Green Manure crops.** *Tephrosia candida* was lopped in a portion when it flowered. In Plot No. 18 under old rubber this crop sown on 20th October 1920, gave the following yields of green material.

First lopping	30—5—21	3,500 lbs. per acre.
Second lopping	1—10—21	3,750 do.
Third lopping	9—5—22	4,840 do.
Fourth lopping	25—8—22	2,780 do.

Total yield in 22 months. 14,870 lbs.

In the seed selection plot (open spacing) crop sown in 15-10-21 has given the following yields.

1st lopping	16—5—22	1,260 lbs. per acre.
2nd lopping	24—8—22	6,430 lbs. do.

Total in 10 months. 7,690 lbs.

*Centrosema Plumieri* in the selection plot this year is coming away well.

The outturn for the month amounted to 450 lbs. wet sheet and 69½ lbs. wet scrap. Results are tabulated below:—

Plots.	Tapping system.	Yield of wet rubber per 100 trees. per day in lbs.		Percentage of scrap wet weight.	
		August	July	Aug.	July.
1 to 12.	One third daily	0.27	0.98	13.4	10.9
13	do	0.30	1.16	10.9	11.3
14	One third alternate days	0.39	1.54	12.1	13.0
14 a	Half alternate days	0.44	1.80	10.0	10.2
15	One third daily	0.30	1.10	13.6	11.2
17-19	do	0.24	0.93	13.8	15.6

**Tenmalai Rubber Experiment Station.** During the month, 21 days' rain totalled 10.57 inches against 11.12 during August of 1921. Tapping was carried out regularly and the yields are appended.

Two cases of pink disease were noted, one of which was so severe that it was cut down and burnt. Canker disease was treated with 5 per cent solution of Carbolinum. Wild pig continued to give trouble and one tree had to be thrown out of tapping,

Of the Green Manures. *Crotalaria striata* & *Centrosema Plumieri* sown in April have begun to flower.



## YIELDS.

Plots.	Tapping System.	Yield of wet rubber per 100 trees per day in lbs.		Percentage of scrap wet weight.	
		August.	July.	August.	July.
1 to 14	One third section daily	2.66	2.32	7.4	7.6
15 & 18	Half Section alternate days	4.36	3.83	6.7	6.2
17	One third section alternate days.	3.0	3.23	7.5	6.1
20	One third section daily	2.9	2.66	7.1	6.8
24 A	do. evening	2.62	2.84	9.6	7.0
24 B	do. morning	2.56	2.71	7.8	8.1
24 C	do. evening only	2.59	2.61	9.3	9.5

During the month, reports No. 26 and 27 were written for the Planters' Chronicle.

D. G. MUNRO,

*Ag: Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.*

## NILGIRI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting held at the Collector's Office, Ootacamund on Tuesday the 26th September, 1922, at 11 A. M.

Present:—Messrs. A. S. Dandison (Chairman) A. K. Weld Downing, E. Sydenham Clarke, Major J. B. Leslie Rogers, Messrs. P. Reed, W. A. Cherry, Major L. L. Porter, Messrs. C. B. Vernede, C. W. Hayne, and F. H. Farmer, (Honorary Secretary).

Representing Messrs. Barber & Pascoe, Mr. N. C. Whitton, Visitor Mr. A. N. Hearn.

*Proceedings.* Notice calling the meeting was taken as read. Proceedings of the previous meeting held on the 11th July were taken as read and confirmed.

*Incorporation.* The Chairman informed the Meeting that Incorporation was now completed and the certificate of Incorporation was in the possession of the Association. The following resolution was then put from the Chair. That the United Planters' Association of Southern India be asked to find an auditor for the Association. Carried. The meeting was of the opinion that at an early date a sub committee be appointed for the purpose of drawing up new rules using the old rules as the basis to work upon.

The following report of the U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting was read by Mr. Downing.

*Delegates Report.* As instructed by you we attended the 29th Annual meeting of the United Planters' Association of Southern India held at Bangalore from 21st to 24th August 1922, and now beg to submit our report.

*Rules.* These had already been circulated to District Associations, and after the meeting had decided to alter the time limit in rule X to 2 months, this was passed. The only other one in which we were interested and which this Association was against, was rule XII, this on discussion was not passed.

As regards a rule to allow members for District Assns. to become personal members of the U. P. A. S. I this has been incorporated in a resolution suggesting the alteration of articles 6 of the articles of Association as one of the other paras of this resolution was not in keeping with our instructions, we could not vote for it as a whole, but as the resolution was passed by the majority it will come before this Association in due course.

*Golf Tournament.* This will be taken up by the Sports Committee, and we were thanked for the promise we gave on your behalf, for contribution towards a separate cup; we also intimated that this Association would enter a team for next years' Tennis Tournament. The Sports Committee now consist of the active Members of the Executive Committee.

*Planters' Chronicle:* A suggestion was thrown out that this be taken over by the Madras Mail, and issued as a sort of planting supplement. We opposed this and are glad to say that it was decided to carry on as at present.

*Report of Labour Commission:* This was not discussed as it was evident the scheme would not receive sufficient financial support. We proposed a vote of thanks to the Members of the Commission for their unstinted hard work.

*Buying Agency:* This was gone into very thoroughly, and we hope its activities will be extended. We proposed a resolution that all members of District Associations are ipso facto Members of the Buying Agency without any additional subscriptions, but this was turned down. The views expressed by various interests and strong opposition in certain quarters, were conclusive evidence of the value this Agency has been to planters.

We proposed a vote of thanks to Major Brock for all the work he did as Honorary Secretary in pushing the scheme, and it was decided that the funds and Accounts should be brought into the books of the United Planters' Association of Southern India and that the Executive Committee frame rules etc., for the future conduct of the Agency.

*Factory Act:* At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, we Tea Delegates met Mr. Paddison informally to discuss this Act, and went through the various clauses which affected us adversely.



To sum up it is a case of applying for exemption under the particular headings, and these should be passed through the U. P. A. S. I.

*Budaga Labour:* Though this item did not figure of course in the Agenda, we were instructed to go into the matter of old connections with the Ananallai Delegates, and it was tentatively agreed between us that old connections mean Budaga Maistries registered with the Labour Department before the Committee Meeting at Coimbatore at which the Nilgiri District was included in Planting areas. This seems a perfectly reasonable settlement, and hope you will accept it. As regards the Wynaad, we understand that as they were unable to agree among themselves over Labour matters, it was useless to consider Inter District arrangements.

*Roads & Communication:* The Coorg Planters' Association brought up a resolution on the lines of those we have placed before the Meeting in previous years' which we seconded.

*Labour Department:* There was considerable discussion over the collection of debts by this Department, and finally an amendment by the K. D. P. A. to the effect that the executive Committee see what steps can be taken to reduce the work of the Labour Department in this connection, as also the service of warrants to enable any funds saved to be employed for Direct recruiting.

*Budget:* We agreed to the extra amounts asked for the following items: Portrait of Mr. J. A. Richardson. Planting Members expenses.

*S. I. P. B. Fund:* The Incorporation of this was decided upon and Messrs. Mackie and Murphy kindly volunteered to bear of the the expenses of such Incorporation.

*Labour Rates of Pay:* There was considerable discussion over the schedules finally it was decided to forward them to the S. I. A. London.

A resolution was passed asking the Director, Labour Department to bring to the notice of the Honorary Secretary of District Association concerned any case of a member offering higher rates of pay than those included in the schedule of rates agreed to by the District Association concerned.

*Statistics:* The Secretary pointed out the great difficulty he was experiencing in obtaining these and made a final appeal to members through their delegates to come into line over this important matter.

*Manures:* The various firms interested have agreed to sell Lime and Fish Manures under guaranteed analysis of both the above, this has come at last better late than never,

We also attended two General Committee Meetings and finally thank you for the honour you did us in sending us as your Delegates to Bangalore. We shall now be happy to answer, if possible, any questions you may wish to put us.

The Delegates replied satisfactorily to some questions put to them by Members.

Mr. Vernede spoke at some length on a proposal for making the Labour Department into a Limited Liability Company. He said he had had intimation of a party strongly in favour of this and prepared to support it financially.

Mr. Dandison speaking on behalf of the Delegates said that not a word about this had been heard at Bangalore either in the Proceedings or privately.

The Meeting requested to Mr. Vernede to make a draft of his proposal and to forward it to the Honorary Secretary. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the draft to all the members and the subject could then be brought up for consideration at the next meeting.

Major Porter spoke of the ignorance of the man in the street on the expenses of the U. P. A. S. I. and Labour Department. It was more detail of expenses which he wanted to know.

Mr. Dandison in replying said that at Bangalore many questions were put to the Secretary as to details of expenditure to all of which satisfactory replies had been given.

After further discussion Major Porter proposed the following resolution seconded by Mr. J. B. Vernede.

Proposed that amounts showing the detailed receipts and requirements of expenditure of the U. P. A. S. I. and Labour Department be supplied to president of District Associations to enable them to answer questions by Members of their Associations. If deemed necessary these accounts to be treated as confidential by President and Members. (Carried unanimously).

*Factory Act* : The Chairman was asked to interview the Collector on this subject. A hearty vote of thanks was then proposed to the Delegates for so ably representing the Association. Carried unanimously.

*District Board Membership* : The Chairman said that the Association had had to elect six members, and not five as previously arranged, on instruction received from Government. At a committee Meeting, held at Coonoor on the 11th July Mr. W. A. Cherry had consented to become a Member and the committee had accordingly elected Mr. Cherry.

He wished to inform Members that up to the last possible moment every effort had been made to play the game by the Nilgiris,



Wynaad, and to keep to the five and four distribution, but Government sanction had not been received, and the Association was compelled to elect six Members.

*Election of Office Bearers:* The Chairman said that under the Articles of Incorporation automatically all Office Bearers resigned. He further regretted to have to say that Mr. F. H. Farmer would not be eligible for re-election as he is leaving the District, and proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Farmer for all he had done for the Association.

Mr. Farmer thanked the Association for the honour they did him in electing him their Hon. Secretary.

Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Committee by ballot resulted as follows:

Major L. L. Porter (Chairman), Mr. A. S. Dandison (Vice Chairman), Mr. C. W. Hayne (Honorary Secretary).

*Committee.:* Messrs. J. B. Vernede, A. K. Weld Downing, E. Sydenham Clarke, W. A. Cherry, N. J. Stanes and Capt. St. John Ives.

*General Committee:* Major L. L. Porter was elected to be on the General Committee in the place of Mr. F. H. Farmer.

*Miscellaneous Correspondence:* Letter was read from the Government calling attention to the difficulty of ascertaining the address of late Indian Army Reserve Officers whose formal commissions were waiting for them.

*Books of Proceedings of U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting.* It was decided that all Members should be sent copies of these. It was not known when they could be available.

Letter regretting inability to attend was received from Capt. E. G. Windle.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the Collector for the use of his room the meeting terminated.

(Sd) A. S. DANDISON, (Sd) F. H. FARMER,  
Chairman. Hon. Secretary.

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## SOUTH INDIAN PLANTERS' CRICKET CLUB

Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Coimbatore Club on Friday 29th September 1922.

PRESENT :—Mr. J. H. B. SULLIVAN, IN THE CHAIR.

MESSRS. G. BAYZAND, D. COOPER, R. W. FREMLIN  
H. J. C. HAMMOND, G. A. LE MESURER, C. MAYO  
P. NAYLOR, F. L. SCHWIND AND WEBB.

Resolved,—That the South Indian Planters' Cricket Club be inaugurated as from 1st October 1922.

Proposed by Mr. R. W. Fremlin and seconded by Mr. P. A. Naylor "That Sir Fairless Barber be invited to be President". Carried unanimously.

Resolved,—“That a Committee of ten Members, representing the planting Districts of Southern India, viz,—Anamalais Mr. J. Hatton Robinson ; Kanan Devans Mr. H. L. Pinches ; Mysore Mr. R. W. Fremlin ; Nilgiris Mr. G. W. Fulcher ; Coorg Mr. A. E. J. Nicolls ; Wynaad Mr. J. H. B. Sullivan and Central Travancore, Mundakayam, Shevaroy's and West Coast, the Honorary Secretaries of which Associations will be asked to nominate representatives.”

Proposed by Mr. Fremlin and seconded by Mr. Sullivan

“That Mr. Waddington be cordially invited to undertake the “duties of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.” Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Hammond and seconded by Mr. Fremlin

“That Mr. Sullivan be Captain of the Club for the current year.”

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by the Chair,—“That Mr. Fremlin be vice-Captain”

Carried unanimously

Proposed by Mr. Fremlin and seconded by Mr. Sullivan and carried,—

“That the annual subscription be Rs. 12 per annum payable in advance and that any planter in Southern India is eligible for membership.”

## M. C. C. vs. THE PLANTERS.

CRICKET MATCH 29TH-30TH SEPT. & 1ST OCT.

I have received the following letter from the Captain of the M. C. C. Team.

H. Waddington, Honorary Secretary, S. I. P. C. C.

Silverton House, Egmore, 3. X. 22.

My dear Mr. Waddington,

I am writing on behalf of the Madras Cricket Team to tell you how much we all enjoyed our visit and to ask you if you would please convey our thanks to everyone at Coimbatore, the Ladies' Committee, the Club Members and the Planters, for the delightful time they gave us.

I don't remember having enjoyed a match more and we are all hoping that it will become an annual fixture,

Yours sincerely,  
E. W. C. BRADFELD.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

**S. I. P. Cricket Club.** With reference to the proceedings of the first meeting of the South Indian Planter's Cricket Club, report of which appeared in our last issue we learn that Sir Fairless Barber has accepted the post of President and Mr. H. Waddington that of Honorary Secretary and that donations amounting to something over Rs. 450 have been received or promised.

**Clensel.** We publish elsewhere in this number a letter from Messrs. J. Paterson & Company, Glasgow who refute the criticisms passed on this insecticide by Messrs. Anstead and Ballard a short time back in their report on mosquito Blight.

**S. I. P. Benevolent Fund.** The total receipts to the South Indian Planters' Benevolent Fund up to the 30th September last year were Rs. 3,157-14-0 as compared with Rs. 2,862-8-10 to same date this year, since when Rs. 287-8-0 has been received. Messrs. Volkart Brothers repeating their generous donation of Rs. 100.

*Coffee in Java.* J. Hagen in writing of *Coffee in Java* in a pamphlet recently received and apparently published in 1917, states "But alas the days of Arabian Coffee cultivation in Java are numbered. Diseases and pests, and principally Leaf Disease, have so taxed it that success in Coffee planting has come to be as uncertain as that of a gamble. The great irregularity and uncertainty of the yield is the reason why a cultivation of this sort will have to be abandoned here, or practically speaking, is already nearly abandoned.

*Rubber-paper.* Our contemporary the "*India Rubber Journal*" arrives this week clothed in a rubber paper cover, which contains 1 per cent of rubber (calculated on the dry paper) employed as a toughener. They tell us the rubber was of course added as latex. Eight gallons of 30 per cent latex were employed per ton of paper made, equivalent of 24 lbs of rubber per ton. But far the most striking difference between it and the paper previously used is found from the number of times the paper can be folded and unfolded along the same crease without breaking. This is 172 machine-way and 95 cross way in the case of the rubber paper as against 5 & 6 respectively for ordinary paper.

*Act XIII of 1859.* In October last, the Government of India referred to the Provincial Governments, and all industrial organisations a proposal for repealing this Act entirely, and stated that after consulting local Governments and eliciting Public Opinion, if it were found that there was a general consensus of opinion in the country in favour of its repeal, they would be prepared to undertake the necessary legislation for that purpose. We understand that the result of this reference has now been received by the Government of India, and that the consensus of opinion is in favour of the Act being repealed, planters must therefore expect legislation very shortly to be introduced and for the Act to be abolished and it is up to them to put their house in order and consider how they propose to carry on under the new conditions.

*Coffee Stealing Prevention Act.* We would remind Coffee Planters that under the Rules framed under this Act, the triplicate of the all Coffee passes should be sent to the Station-House Officer, having jurisdiction and not to the District Superintendent of Police.

*Area under Tea.* In 1920 the total area under Tea in India was 701,108 acres and the total crop 345,339 576 lbs or just under an average of 500 lbs per acre. In Ceylon there were 401,000 acres which produced 162,347,353 lbs or just over 400 lbs per acre.



## "BASKET WORM".

(FROM THE R. G. A. BULLETIN-AUGUST)

The Association's mycologists report that they have recently investigated a pest which had been causing some trouble on one of the estates belonging to a member of the Association.

The pest is the larval stage—caterpillar—of a small Psychid moth or "basket worm" (*Acanthopsyche snelleni*).

The larvæ were present on the rubber trees in large numbers, and were vigorously attacking the recently tapped surfaces, making numerous small wounds from which latex flowed freely. A large number of specimens were collected, and an attempt is being made to rear the moths. These larvæ—odd specimens of which can almost always be found on rubber trees—usually restrict their attention to the lichens, etc., on the outer bark. They construct around themselves neat conical cases made of silk and finely divided vegetable matter within which the females pass their whole lives and deposit their eggs. The destruction of the cases and contents means, therefore, the destruction of females, i. e., prospective "mothers" of future generations and a great reduction in numbers.

As a method of protecting the tapped surface, it was suggested that a two per cent. mixture of Arboretas, Agrisol, Brunolinum, Kerosene, etc., be applied to the tapped surfaces once each week until the pest is under control.

In cases where large numbers are present between the cut and ground level, these should either be removed by hand picking or killed by painting as above or with 5 per cent. Katakilla, since the majority of them are usually almost or quite fully fed or pupating, and their destruction much reduces further risk.

Similarly, it may be necessary to paint a ring round the tree (solution as above) a little higher than the tapping surface to prevent those above from passing down to the tapped surface.

The measures outlined above (except that spraying was adopted instead of painting) proved entirely successful in controlling the pest.

## BYEGONES III.

### GREEN COLOUR FROM COFFEE BERRIES.

A method has lately been discovered at Venice, for composing a fine unchangeable emerald-green colour. A certain quality of coffee is boiled in river water; spoiled coffee (*café avarie*) is preferable. By means of a proportional quantity of pure soda, a green precipitate is obtained, which is suffered to dry for six or seven days upon polished marble, stirring it about occasionally, in order that every part of it may be in contact with the atmospheric air, from which it receives a new vivacity of tint. The green obtained by this process has resisted the action of acids, and even the influence of light and moisture.

(From the Asiatic Journal Vol. XIX, January 1825)

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## MARKET REPORTS.

### COFFEE.

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co., write from Mangalore under date 9th October.

We issued our last local circular on August 16th. Since then we regret that we have not seen the hoped for steadying of Continental exchanges and consequent improvement in European prices. On August 16th, the franc was quoted at 56 - and today it stands at 58.20, and the mark is 9550. The price of coffee re-exported after consignment to London is of course directly affected by the exchange of the consuming countries.

Apart from this fact, we are still of opinion that the statistical position is strong. Modified estimates are reported from Brazil and from Central America; Costa Rica especially is expected to fall short - and this country is one of the chief competitors met by East India. Even the best prices of last year's East Indian Coffee compared with average pre-war prices were not more than should be warranted by the general increased cost of living at Home over the 1914 level.

At the end of August, Mysore Assortment was being offered at 90/- C. I. F. HAVRE; this equals about Rs. 62/ F. O. B. In a cable received on the fourth of this month, our London friends indicate the same price as the limit of their idea for forward speculative purchase. Planters on the other hand are disinclined to sell forward below Rs. 70/- F. O. B.; though some have indicated their readiness to accept a slightly lower figure - they will not look at Rs. 65/-, at which price offers have been made. It looks as if the inclination is to wait and see what happens to the first Home consignments of new crop.

As regards Native Coffee also Planters' ideas are above the prices that Europe will pay at present for forward contracts. The same general conditions apply as in the case of Parchment Coffee - but the value of the franc has a greater influence in view of the French consumption of this grade, and this is an important point to bear in mind.

Small sales for January/March shipment have been effected at the equivalent of Rs. 290/295 per Mangalore Candy (576 lbs) for clean garbled coffee delivered in Mangalore. Planters do not appear willing to sell further below Rs. 300/305 for the same conditions. Europe at present does not seem at all inclined to meet this price - and we had a cable from our London friends on the 6th instant reading "NATIVE COFFEE MARKET QUIET."

PEIRCE, LESLIE & Co: LTD.



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT No. 32. (27th September to 3rd October).

During the week, the Deputy Director was on tour in the Wynad and returned to Coimbatore on the 29th, to clear up arrears of correspondence.

## 2. THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS. (17th Sep. to 23rd Sep),

At the *Sidapur Experiment Station*, the weather was cloudy but only 0.81 inches of rain fell. Forking was done on 2.10 acres and is now finished. Overburned stumps in the collar pruned plot No. 3 have been removed and 20 fresh supplies planted out to fill up the blank.

Yields of green manures which were cut are given below:—

<i>Crotalaria semperflorens</i> from 10 cents.	1610 lbs.	16,100 lbs. per acre.
<i>Cassia Hirsuta</i> (sown).	5 cents.	524 lbs. 10,480 lbs. per acre
<i>Cassia Hirsuta</i> (self-sown)	2½ „	462 lbs. 18,480 lbs. per acre.

The green stuff obtained was mulched on plots Nos. 2, 5, 10 and 11 at 5,000 lbs. for the 1st two and 4,600 lbs. for the last two.

Permanent shade plants to the number of 600 have been put out altogether.

At the *Tea Experiment Station, Peermade*, wet weather was experienced during the whole week, 4.42 inches of rain being recorded. Field operations were interfered with to some extent. 705 lbs. of green leaf was obtained from 5.34 acres which works out at 132 lbs. per acre. The growth of the flush was slow. Manuring was started in plots 7 & 8 and forked in.

At the *Tenmalai Rubber Experiment Station*, rain fell every day giving a total for the week of 5.23 inches. Tapping was stopped completely on the 21st. Wild pig did some damage to 10 trees. A total yield of wet sheet 82.4 lbs., wet scrap 7.6 lbs. was obtained during the week.

The yields per plot for the week are given below:—

Plot,	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
1 to 14	One third daily	0.369
15 and 18	Half alternate day	0.799
17	One third alternate day	0.637
16 and 19	One third daily. Rest July & August	0.844
20	One third daily	0.433
24 a	One third daily morning	0.450
24 b	Do. evening	0.376
24 c	Do. evening only	0.353

At the *Mooply Experiment Station*. 3.08 inches of rain fell every day being wet. Weeding is being carried on in the portion of the station which was under flood water during the heavy rains.

A yield of 106½ lbs. wet sheet and 16½ lbs. wet scrap was obtained.

Tapping experiment results are as follows:—

Plot.	System.	Yield per tree per day in oz.
1 to 12.	One third daily.	0.26
13.	do.	0.29
14.	One third alternate day.	0.42
14 a.	Half alternate day.	0.43
15.	One third daily.	0.25
16.	One third Rest July and August.	0.29
17 to 19.	One third daily.	0.24

D. C. MUNRO,

Offg, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.

### U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR. DEPARTMENT.

PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION-ELLANAICKENPATTI AGENCY.

The late Agent, A. Sodalaimuthu Pillai son of Mr. Ayasamy Pillai, till recently employed in the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Department, Palamcottah has no longer any connection with the Department, his successor is:

Mr. Ganpathia Pillay son of Letchumana Pillay.

### FREIGHT RATES TO LONDON.

PER 50 C. FT.

#### TEA.

*From Calcutta* £ 2—7—6 less 5s/- discount for cash under agreement made last May to hold good for three years.

#### TEA & RUBBER.

*From Colombo and West Coast* 47s/6d less 10 percent Rebate to Contractors.



**DIE-BACK.**

The following is a successful treatment for hard wood, small fruit ring trees, showing signs of die-back and fruit falling—as Coffee sometimes suffers this way—perhaps the treatment may cure and may help the Coffee Planter. Remove the surface soil for a few inches round the affected tree without unduly disturbing the roots and apply enough of the following compost to fill in the removal.

To a barrow load of turfy loam, add a quarter load of fresh stable manure, half a gallon of bone-meal, one peck of quick lime mix the compost and apply pressing down well—the application must be made before rains are expected. All affected branches must be cut back—and leave the tree unhandled—to give it a chance of getting back to health. The die back is put down to root anaemia, consequently the sap does not circulate correctly.

**U. P. A. S. I.****FROM THE SECRETARY'S LETTER BAG.**

Dear Sir,

I beg to bring to your kind consideration, the following and shall be glad to know if you can do anything in the matter.

Certain people in these parts, i. e. in the two States of Travancore and Cochin require money on loan on hypothecation of landed properties (cocoanut gardens and paddy fields).

One party wants  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs of rupees on loan and his properties are located in Travancore and Cochin States to the value of nearly 20 lakhs. He is prepared to hypothecate any extent of properties or even the whole of his properties.

Another party wants 1 lakh of rupees and his worth is also 20 lakhs, Cocoanut gardens and paddy fields in Travancore and Cochin States. All Henmam lands, as also some 3000 acres of forest including a rubber estate in British Territory on the Travancore frontier.

The third party wants 1 lakh of rupees and his properties are near Alwaye, a bathing Sanitarium in Travancore on the Shoranur Cochin Railway and he has got two decent Bungalows and paddy lands on the banks of the river, Alwaye which he is willing to dispose of even.

The fourth party requires 1 lakh of rupees and his property is in Cochin State, the whole are Cocoanut gardens very fertile and he has in one block 300 acres Cocoanut plantation on the sea shore.

The fifth wants 2 lakhs of rupees on hypothecation of property worth to any extent.

The sixth requires 50 thousand.

These loans are to clear scattered debts. Kindly let me know the rate of interest and I shall take the parties to your Office and get agreements from them direct.

Thanking you for a reply per return.

Believe me,  
Ever faithfully yours,

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1922.

*Agriculture.* Harvesting of the Paddy crop is over, bar about 15 per cent. Planting of paddy in South Travancore was well in hand, but owing to lack of rain in the Tinnevely District only the tank fed area was being taken in hand. Cholan and Raggi crops have been harvested and the Chillies crop is well in hand.

*Health.* Normal, a certain amount of fever in the Tenkasi, Ambasamudram Kalakad area.

*Weather.* Rainfall is poor throughout owing to N. E. monsoon being late.

*Prices.* The following gives a fair idea of the prices prevailing in this District and South Travancore.

Per Measure;—Paddy 1 an. 11 ps. to 2 as. 4 ps.; Rice 4 as. 2 ps. to 5 as. 4 ps. Ragi 2 as. to 2 as. 8 ps.; Cumboo 2 as. 4 ps. to 2 as. 8 ps.; Cholan 2 as. 2 ps. to 2 as. 8 ps.; Dholl 5 as. 4 ps. to 7 as.; Chillies 3 as. 9 ps. to 5 as. 6 ps. per lb.

*Wages.* Wages for the ordinary agricultural work excluding harvesting and planting of paddy crop during the month were approximately as follows: Men 8 to 12 as, women 4 to 6 as, children 1 to 3 as. payment being partly in kind. The following wages were being earned for special works.—“Coupe” Coolies-coolies employed by contractors on their timber contracts near Ambasamudram, Tenkasi, Kalakad—are being paid Re. 1/- to Rs. 1/8/- per day. Men employed on Railway construction in the Tinnevely District are being paid 12 as. per day and have, in some places, struck work because their demand for a 66 per cent increase was refused. Railway construction in this District has been largely responsible for the loss of a considerable amount of estate labour. Wages earned by the labour on this construction work are very high. Earth work which I have personally inspected, which ordinarily would be paid for on estates at the rate 5 to 6 rupees per 1000 c. ft. was being paid for at the rate of Rs. 20 per 1000 c. ft. Women are earning an average of 10 as. per day harvesting and planting paddy, payment being partly in kind. There are two grades of harvesting and planting labour, the ordinary and professional. The former is earning 5 to 7 annas per day and the latter 12 as. to a rupee. Women collecting firewood in the Tenkasi, Ambasamudram and Kalakad forest area can earn 6 to 8 as. a day with comparative ease. Men can earn an average rupee per day cutting cane in the jungle.

*Labour.* There is plenty of work for coolies and the prices of grain etc. is low, except in the Koilpatty and parts of the Tinnevely and Tengasi Taluks where the main product is Cholan or Cotton. Kanganies are finding it difficult to induce coolies to leave for the estates owing to the low price of food stuffs, the demand for labour and the numerous small festivals that occur during this part of the year,—the Dusserah festival, 10 days, being the most important.

A. G. A. DUNNING,  
Superintendent.



### TEA SEED OIL.

An abundant supply of fat is of major importance in the consideration of nutrition, whether of the individual or the nation. Not only are fats wholesome, palatable, and most useful in cooking, but many also carry fat-soluble vitamin A.

During the recent war, in the countries where the fat supply was far below normal, great discomfort and a serious lowering of health and of resistance to disease were common and physiologists generally believe that this was due, to some extent at least, to lack of vitamin A. It should also be remembered that fats and oils represent the most concentrated source of body fuel, a fact that has an important bearing on the food transportation problem and on the cost of food to the consumer. An adequate national food policy therefore requires that an abundant fat supply be maintained during peace times as well as during war, and there is justification for the efforts made to find new sources of food fats and to make better use of those we now have.

For these reasons the Department of Agriculture (United States) has outlined a broad programme for the study of edible fats. It also includes studies of the thoroughness of digestion of fats and oils and the tolerance of the body to different kinds. The digestibility of 60 or more different fats and oils, some of animal and some of vegetable origin has been tested.

The best grades of tea-seed oil are used to some extent for food purposes in China and have been found as an adulterant of cabbage oil. The Chinese use poorer grades for burning and for soap making. That used in the tests here reported was a commercial product of a pale yellow colour and bland flavour.

The subjects in the present experiments were young men apparently in normal health, most of them students in a local university. They were familiar with this type of work, having served as subjects in previous experiments and were entirely trustworthy. Each experiment was carried on for three days and included nine meals. The special fat to be studied was incorporated in a cornstarch blanc mange. This was eaten along with a basal ration which consisted of commercial wheat biscuits, oranges and sugar and which supplied a very small amount of fat in comparison with that in the blanc-mange.

The experiment was begun with three subjects, who ate some 50 grams of the oil per man per diem. Owing to an accident complete data are available from only one person. The subject remained in his usual good health and suffered no noticeable physiological disturbance. This was equally true for the two other subjects, both of whom ate the experimental diet for three days. The coefficient of digestibility 91.2 per cent obtained in the one complete test is somewhat lower than is usual with oils liquid at body temperature, but the data are too limited to be taken as conclusive.

For purpose of general comparison the results of the experiments on the digestibility of oils and fats worked out as follows,—Cod-liver Oil 97.7 percent, Java-almond Oil 97.0 percent, Tea seed Oil 91.2 per cent, Watermelon-Seed Oil 94.8 percent and Deer-fat 81.7%.

(SUMMARISED FROM PROFESSIONAL BULLETIN 1033 OF THE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.)

### LABOUR LEGISLATION.

In the Legislative Assembly a bill was brought forward on behalf of Government on Workmen's Compensation, it will be passed, it is understood, in the next session and will come into force on the first of July 1924. It includes work in Factories, and if the definition of a Factory in the bill is the same as the definition under the Factories Act, employees in Tea Factories will come under its provisions.

Mr. N. M. Joshi asked : With reference to the reply given by Mr. A. C. Chatterjee on the 15th September 1921, to my supplementary question that arose out of my question No. 166 re-Labourers, will Government be pleased to publish or make available to the Members of the Indian Legislature the information regarding the conditions of the labourers working in mines and on Tea, Coffee and Indigo Plantations in India, collected by the labour Bureau in the Department of Industries of the Government of India ? Mr. A. C. Chatterjee replied: As regards labour in Plantations, the most recent investigation are those conducted by the Committee appointed to examine conditions in the Assam Tea Gardens; their report has not yet reached the Government of India.

Munshi Mahadeo Prasad asked : Will the Government be pleased to state, whether it proposes to introduce any legislation at an early date for the protection and welfare of Agricultural Labourers on Tea, Rubber and Indigo Plantations in India according to the Recommendations and Draft Conventions of the Third International Labour Conference which assembled at Geneva in 1921?

Mr. A. C. Chatterjee replied : The Draft Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the third international Conference do not refer to any particular task of agricultural labourer but to agricultural labour generally. Government have at present no proposals for legislation on the lines suggested, but an opportunity for discussion of certain of the Draft Conventions and Recommendations alluded to by the Honourable Member will be given later.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents.)*

### CLENSEL WORKS.

HENRIETTA STREET, GLASGOW

20TH SEPTEMBER 1922.

Dear Sir,

Our attention has been drawn by Messrs. Rowe, White & Coy., Ltd., 4 Lloyds Avenue, London to the article which appeared in the "Planters Chronicle" issue dated August 5th 1922, pages 453/455 under the heading Scientific Department. "Mosquito Blight of Tea" under the paragraph "Insecticides". The Proprietary Insecticide mentioned therein refers undoubtedly to our Product viz., Paterson's Concentrated Clensel Insecticide, and we desire, most strongly, to protest against what, in our opinion, is a most prejudiced condemnation of our Product, as we feel sure the first effect of this publication will be to deter Planters either from using our product or giving it a fair and unprejudiced trial,

Our reasons are as follows :—

*First.* Paterson's Concentrated Clensel Insecticide is an article enjoying a twentyfive years' unbroken reputation with many thousands of customers who would not regularly repeat for this article were it not all that we claim for it and we consider it very unfair that gentlemen of the standing of Messrs. Anstead and Ballard who, seemingly, have made no tests or trials with our Product, should condemn any article of which they have no experience and therefore, in our opinion, no reliance can be placed on their statements.

*Second.* Some of our Directors are largely interested in Tea Gardens and for a number of years now we have been carrying out extensive trials with Paterson's Concentrated Clensel Insecticide on Tea Gardens controlled by firms of the highest standing, who have furnished us with reports on these trials and we make no apology for quoting the following from the well-known firm of Messrs. Jas. Finlay & Coy., Ltd., Glasgow and Calcutta, who were testing our Product against Mosquito Blight, which is as follows.

"I have now come to the conclusion from constant observation of the parts treated with Paterson's Concentrated Clensel Insecticide against Mosquito Blight, that it not only kills the insect on contact, but it has also a deterrent effect, as, when applied, the bushes show no signs of Blight on the young shoots, while others near at hand are still badly affected. I am therefore of opinion that, had this Insecticide been applied early in the season, a serious loss in crop would have been avoided."

We could quote many others, but this will be sufficient to substantiate our position and when Messrs. Anstead & Ballard state that

it is far from likely that our Product will do what we claim for it to be put quite frankly, it is another way of Casting doubt on the reports received from such firms as Messrs. Finlay and others.

*Third.* We are of opinion that until the above mentioned gentlemen can furnish us with conclusive proof that our Product fails to kill Mosquito Blight and also to give the desired deterrent effect, we certainly think they should, in justice to our firm and our Product withdraw their imputation.

*Fourth.* For Messrs. Anstead & Ballard possessing the experience that they do, to compare our Product (which, we understand, they have never used) with such an article as Fish Oil Resin Soap is ludicrous, because we have definite reports embodied in our literature; that Paterson's Concentrated Clensel Insecticide *will* kill Mosquito Blight and also other Insect pests and diseases, while we have never known and very much question, that Fish Oil Resin Soap would kill Mosquito Blight and in this connection we take it that these gentlemen agree with us.

In conclusion, we desire to state that large quantities of our Product have been purchased by many of the leading Managing Agents for Tea Estates for trials by their planters, not only against Mosquito Blight but other Insect pests and diseases, as the result of reports on trials that have been conducted throughout India during recent years. Amongst such are the Madura Company, Cochin and Branches (who are our Sole Agents for South India); Jas. Finlay & Coy. Ltd; Walter Duncan & Coy; Duncan Macneill & Coy; &c., and we will abide by the results which they achieve. We have already received repeat orders for increased quantities of our Product from which one can form their own conclusions. We might mention that from information already in our possession, the extensive use of our Product is recognized as a first-class Commercial proposition, as the cost of spraying has been many times covered by the increased production of Tea obtained and the healthy state of the Gardens resulting from the application of our article, and we should highly appreciate if you could arrange for this letter to receive publicity, through the medium of the "Planters' Chronicle", as we think it unfair that, without any proof whatsoever, our Product should have been so unjustly condemned.

Yours faithfully,

For JOHN PATERSON & CO., LTD.;

J. Eric Baterson,

DIRECTOR.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### *Workmen's Compensation Act*

In continuation of our remarks last week under the heading of Labour Legislation, we give on another page of this issue a summary of the new Workmens Compensation Act which will come into force as from 1st July 1924, and under the provisions of which all labour employed in estates and Factories will be included.

### *Prohibition of Imports*

Except when sent to the Madras Agricultural Department no plants are allowed to be imported into Southern India by post, or any Rubber or Coffee plants from America by sea. Rubber plants from any part of the world are only permitted to be introduced if accompanied by a certificate of freedom from the fungi, Fumes, Sphaerostille and Fusicladium. Coffee seed is only allowed to be imported under license.

### *Freight Rates to London*

These continue at the same figures as given in our last issue. Viz. per 50 c. feet on Tea from Culcutta £ 2-7-6 less a discount of 5s/- for cash, and on Tea and Rubber from Colombo and the West Coast 47s/6d. less ten per cent rebate to Contractors.

*Rubber Restriction*      Elsewhere we give a summary of the Scheme approved of by the Colonial Office, as far as it can be gathered from cables so far to hand and the original proposals put forward as the Stevenson Scheme No. II. That it has had immediate effect on the Market is shown by the rise of Plantation Rubber standing at 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. at commencement of the month to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. according to last reports.

*L. A. N. I. & S. I. N. A.*      The Annual Report of the Lady Amptill Nurses' Institute and South Indian Nursing Association, made up to 30th June last has now come to hand. From this we find that the total subscriptions received amounted to Rs. 13,146, and total receipts from all sources, inclusive of fees, but exclusive of donations, amounted to Rs. 81,101 as against an expenditure of Rs. 1,10,438. However during the same period donations received to extent of Rs. 43,726, chiefly due to the Fete Champetre organised by H. E. Lady Willingdon in February last (Rs. 15,000); performances given by the "Optimists" in aid of the Association (Rs. 5,000); and a ball by Mr. S. A. Berridge at his residence, Ootacamund. The number of nurses employed at the beginning of the year were more than could be usefully employed and a reduction of seven in the number will lead to more economical working and we expect a more satisfactory balancing between ordinary receipts and expenditure will ensue during the current year.

*Companies' Tax*      Under the Madras Act XIV of 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, power was given to District, Taluk and Union Boards to impose a Companies Tax, calculated on the paid up Capital of all Companies transacting business within such area for profit, and a profession tax on every person not liable to the companies tax, but income from houses and land is exempt from this tax as it already has to pay a Land Cess, however we have been informed that certain Taluk Boards are now trying to assess planting companies in Planting Districts to both Land Cess and Companies Tax. The Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. would be glad to have notice of all cases in which this double demand has been made.

*Exit Malaria*      In a statement made to the Press by Sir. John Bland Sutton who has just returned from a lengthy tour in Brazil, there appears the statement, according to the "*Madras Mail*" that "Malaria has been overcome as a disease and is not likely to trouble the world much longer, as a result of the magnificent research work done by the scientists from the Tropical Research Institute of Liverpool who are working there. Let us hope that this is true for a discovery of a real cure of this fell disease would revolutionize the position as regards Labour supply in Districts now handicapped by the scourge.



## WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

We have now received a copy of this Act which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 13th September. It is described as,—“A Bill to define the liability of employers in certain cases of suits for damages brought against them by workmen, and to provide for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accident.

The following is a summary of the act as it affects the interests of Planters.

It will come into force as from 1st July 1924 and will be applicable to all workmen employed in Factories, including Estate Factories to all persons employed in the construction, repair or demolition of a building comprising more than one storey, or any building used or intended for industrial or commercial purposes, or any bridge exceeding or intended to exceed fifty feet in length.

All claims for compensation under the Act must be made within six months of the date of injury, and the employer will not be liable for injury which does not result in total or partial disablement of a workman for a period exceeding ten days, or if the workman was under the influence of drink or drugs at the time, or due to disobedience to an order made known to him, or removal by the person claiming compensation of any guard which he knew had been provided for safety purposes unless in the latter case the injury results in death or total permanent disablement, in which case the employer will be liable to pay only half the compensation to which the workman would otherwise have been entitled.

The following is the scale of compensation provided for under the Act,—

- A. Where death results from injury, in case of an adult, a sum equal to thirty months wages of Rs. 2,500 whichever is less. In case of a minor Rs. 50.
- B. Where permanent total disablement results from an injury. In case of an adult, a sum equal to forty two months wages or Rs. 3,500 whichever is less. In case of a minor, a sum equal to 84 months wages or Rs. 3,500 whichever is less.
- C. Where permanent partial disablement results from an injury a fixed per centage of the compensation granted for total disablement according to the injury.

- D. Where temporary disablement results from an injury half monthly payments payable on expiry of fifteen days from the 10th day of disablement and thereafter half monthly payments during disablement or during a period of seven years whichever is shorter,

In case of adults one quarter of the workman's monthly wage or Rs. 15 whichever is less.

In case of minors one third of his monthly wage or Rs. 15 whichever is less.

Employers will be liable for compensation to Contractors workmen if working on or about his premises if under his control. Thus an employer engaging his labourers by means of contractors who although they supervise their men are directly under the control of the employer, will be liable to pay compensation for injuries incurred, but if the proprietor of an estate employs an engineering firm to erect a Factory or build a bridge, it would be the firm that will be liable to pay compensation to the workmen they employ.

The Act provides that any workman claiming compensation must submit himself to medical examination, if the employer offers the same free of charge, and if he refuses, or obstructs same in any way, his right to receive compensation shall be suspended until such examination has taken place. If he refuses to be attended by a qualified practitioner, whose services have been offered free of charge, or deliberately disregards the instructions of such medical practitioner and the injury is aggravated thereby, the injury and resulting disablement shall be deemed to be of the same nature and duration as they might reasonable have been expected to be if the workman had been regularly attended, and compensation, if any, shall be payable accordingly.

## RUBBER RESTRICTION.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce forward us the following copy of cable received on 18th October from the Rubber Growers' Association, London.

"The following Resolution passed unanimously Special Meeting Council 16th October begins The Council of the Rubber Grower's Association incorporated having considered the supplementary Report of the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to investigate and report upon the present Rubber situation in British Colonies and Protectorates strongly supports the Committees recommendation and urges the Governments of the Federated Malay States Ceylon and the Straits Settlements to adopt them and to introduce legislative measures necessary to give the recommendations the force of law as from an agreed date as early as possible and the council pledges itself to give every assistance to the Government in carrying the scheme into effect ends stop Please circulate our Associations and Press also South India."

(For Summary of the proposals vide next page).



### RUBBER RESTRICTION.

As our readers will have seen from the daily press the Colonial Office have approved the proposals in a supplementary report of the Rubber Committee, set up by that Office, and it is proposed at once to take the necessary legislative steps to enforce restriction of export of Rubber from Malaya and Ceylon. A promise of voluntary support having been received from the British interests in the Netherland Indies.

The report of the Colonial Office Rubber Committee appears to be based on what is known as the Stevenson Scheme No. II, which had received the cordial support and approval of the Rubber Growers Association. Under this scheme "Standard Production" was taken as the actual output of each producer during the twelve months November 1919 to October 1920, and restriction of export was to be obtained by means of a rising rate of export tax according to the percentage of Standard output shipped.

According to cables received, the final proposals accepted differ somewhat from the amount of export tax suggested under this Scheme No. II and the proposal now is that exporters of 60 per cent of the Standard Production should pay a minimum export tax, not to exceed 1d. per pound (Present Ceylon export tax is equivalent of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound. Exporters of over 60 but under 75 per cent to pay export tax at 4d. per pound over all, and the tax thereafter to be increases by 1d. per pound for each 5 per cent additional exported. So that producers exporting 100 per cent over the Standard Production would have to pay 11d. per pound, exceeding 100 per cent 1s. per pound which is to be the maximum.

If this should not bring the average price per pound of rubber, within the first six months up to at least 1s. per pound then the percentage of standard production exportable at the minimum duty will be reduced to 55 per cent, if still insufficient during the following three months the percentage to be reduced to 50 per cent and so on; but if the price shall be established at 1s. 3d. per pound average then the percentage of standard production allowed to be exported at minimum duty will be raised to 65 per cent and so on as to ensure an average price of 1s. 3d.

The scheme seems to have been generally well received by Producers and is to be brought into force as from 1st November, if there should be delay in passing necessary legislation it will be given retrospective effect to that date.

At present British India and Burmah do not appear to come directly under the provisions of the scheme, and it is uncertain if British North Borneo will take similar steps to Malaya and Ceylon, but in recommending the Colonial Office to accept the scheme the Rubber Growers Association did so provided that voluntary assistance of British interests operating elsewhere than Malaya and Ceylon could be obtained to an extent sufficient in the opinion of the Committee to make the scheme effective, we shall probably find therefore that consent has been obtained from most of the proprietors in Southern India.

## PEPPER.

THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE "*Referee*" 3RD SEPTEMBER LAST.

"Pepper is the most important of all spices as regards consumption. The machinery for grinding it and preparing it bulks most largely in the spice mills. Grocers were originally called "peppers," and their art and mysteries belong to one of the old guilds. Pepper-grinding machinery is of the most complicated kind and has reached a high stage of automatic perfection.

"The pepper is carried up four floors by elevators, goes through machine after machine, each one doing its bit, then it comes down again by conveyors and chutes. The pepper is sifted and sorted and milled, shaken, driven through fans—the object being to remove all the hard matter, draw off the dust, and at the same time retain the natural oils.

"The black peppercorn goes through altogether thirty-two stages in this process of grinding and cleaning between the berry and the pepper ready for the table. No article could be easier adulterated by harmless ingredients, which would double its bulk, and consequently the price obtained. At this modern spice mill the pepper is never touched by hand, and a perfectly pure article is produced.

"Mixed spices, which are a well-known grocery article, are treated in a different way; so are nutmegs and almonds. The cleaning and skinning of almonds is an elaborate process which involves plunging them in hot water, sorting them, drying them in an oven, slicing them, and making them ready for almond cakes. There are eight different kinds of prepared almonds, and many grades within each kind.

"One is surprised not only at the number of spices which enter into daily food and are necessary for our digestion but also at the varieties of each spice. There are also several varieties of ginger, chillies, caraways, and other spices. Every kind of spice which enters into articles of dietary or medicine is milled, prepared, and cleaned at these spice mills in Wapping. Large quantities of spices, almonds, etc., are ground at the mills every week, and the finished product gets into small space, as the residue of dust and extraneous matter removed by the machinery constitutes a considerable proportion of the original bulk of the material.

"Spices are indispensable in dietary articles. Every housewife must have them to a greater or lesser extent, and no meal is complete without them. Digestive functions demand them. Few firms grind their own spices, as the business is highly specialised.



## BYEGONES. IV.

## SLAVERY IN MALABAR.

It was a somewhat curious co-incidence, almost immediately, after coupling the names of Mr. Murdock Brown of Anjarakandi, residing near Tellicherry, with that of H. Jacques Andre de Vallois, buried at Tangacherry in Travancore, to come across their names bracketed together in connection with Slavery in Malabar.

In 1827 a report, running to nearly 1000 folio pages, was placed before the House of Commons regarding systems of Slavery in practice in India, and of this nearly a third is taken up with documents relating to an incident in North Malabar, wherein Mr. Murdock Brown was suspected of, and in fact expressly charged with being concerned in the purchase of kidnapped children.

Another occurrence, mentioned, is an alleged attempt at Slave dealing by some Frenchmen, between Malabar and the Isle of France. Colonel John Munro, the British Resident in Travancore, discovered in January 1812, that a number of natives, men, women and children, were confined in irons at the Dutch settlement of Tangacherry, for the purpose, as they declared, of being transported to the Isle of France as slaves. Tangacherry is described as a place under the immediate superintendence of a Portugese inhabitant, remote from the civil control of any European authority, and the convenient resort of smugglers and thieves. The proprietor of the slaves was a "M. Vally", a resident at Pondicherry and the imprisoned natives were found in the house of some of his relations at Tangacherry. The inhabitants of this place, Colonel Munro states, in defiance of the proclamation of Government, persisted in a traffic in slaves, "Of the same nature as the transactions carried on at Travancore, under the orders of Mr. Murdock Brown".

That Jacques Andre de Vallois, who died at Tangacherry, on the 24th April 1810, was one of the relatives of "M. Vally" of Pondicherry, who carried on trade in slaves through his relatives at Tangacherry, admits of no doubt, and explains much that was in doubt when we wrote the Note on, "Who was the first Planter" (vide supra page 553).

Jacques Andre de Vallois appears to have been a French Sugar Planter from Mauritius, who had come to Travancore "Recruiting".

According to the papers in the report, M. Vally acknowledged that the slaves were his property, and had been regularly purchased in Travancore by permission of the late Resident and Diwan, that he was not aware of the proclamations on the subject, and that he had neither sold slaves, nor had any intention of sending them out of the country; that in purchasing them he was less guided by views of personal interest, than by charity, and the most of them were more incumbrance than useful to him. That he always treated his slaves

as a good master ought to do and never ordered them to be put in irons. The Government of the day appear to have had considerable doubt as to the bonafides of M. Vally, but the papers do not record the final ending of the affair.

Now to turn to the case of Mr. Murdock Brown. As explained in the previous article, he had been placed in charge of the experimental plantation at Anjarakandi or Randaterra. He immediately found himself handicapped by shortage of labour, and owing to the backwardness of the Tahsildar in furnishing coolies for the plantation he was reduced to great difficulties. Considerable correspondence then ensued with the Malabar Commissioners regarding the purchasing of "Pooliar" slaves Mr. Brown justifying this method of obtaining labour, on the grounds that the "Pooliars" were born slaves, and that the law of Malabar authorized their transfer by sale from one person to another, that he was likely to better their condition, giving them the same pay as other workmen, and by having them permanently employed, he could make them expert at the work required, so that they would be capable of doing double the work of daily hired men. His argument was accepted, and in July 1798 the Bombay Government, under which Malabar then was, gave him authority to purchase natives, who by their own laws were in a state of bondage.

There appears an order, dated 20th October 1798, to the Company's Assistant, at Chowghat, directing him to grant the necessary legal aid, in transferring any number of persons required by Mr. Brown to the Company's plantation.

In 1811 Mr. Thomas Hervey Baber, the Judge and Magistrate of North Malabar, received information that an extensive traffic in children, even of high caste, was taking place from Travancore into Malabr. In the course of his investigations, he was informed that free-born persons were then detained, as slaves, on the plantation of Mr. Brown at Anjarakandi. Mr. Brown was informed of this, and some officers deputed to examine the whole of the slaves on the plantation. The result was that they brought away 76 men, women and children, all of whom declared they had been stolen or forcibly carried away by Moplabs from South Malabar, Cochin and Travancore. Six of the Children were stated to be free-born, and stolen from their friends in Travancore, within the last six months, and sent to the plantation by one Wallapagata Hassan Ali, a merchantile agent of Mr. Browns.

Mr. Brown appealed to the Courts, but at length had to acknowledge that the six children referred to and two more, who had escaped observation when the others were found, had been placed on the estate by Hassan Ali, although he was ignorant of the fact of their being kidnapped. The Provincial Court of Circuit declared that Mr. Baber had acted totally illegally, in removing the slaves, and ordered them to be returned to Mr. Brown, with exception of the Travancore children.



The Government of Madras however looked upon Mr. Browns explanations as improbable, and intimated their intention of instructing the Company's law officers to defend Mr. Baber, in the suit threatened by Mr. Brown for recovery of damages, for the loss of his bondsmen's services, and expressed approbation of the conduct of their Magistrate, directing him to continue his enquires respecting similar cases. They were apparently however unable to substantiate any actual prosecution of Mr. Brown.

But Mr. Babers activities completely suppressed this illegat-traffic in children as far as the west coast was concerned.

There was a further occurence typical of the times, as the outcome of this business.

Lieutenant F. C. Brown of His Majesty's 80th Regiment, son of Mr. Murdock Brown, having learned upon his arrival at Tellicherry, that a report was in general circulation, that his father "Had sent an authorised agent to Travancore to kidnap children, and that children had been kidnapped," and being ignorant, so he declared, of the official proceedings on the matter, found on enquiry, that Mr. Baber, whom he describes as the professed enemy and persecutor of his father, had taken to Cannanore papers connected with the proceedings, and showed them to various persons there. He accordingly attributed the origin of the report, he heard on landing, to Mr. Baber, and proceeded to his house and demanded a written disavowal of having circulated the report. Mr. Baber, while denying that the report originated with him, declined to give any written statement. Whereupon Lieutenant Brown deputed Mr. A. Douglas of the Civil Service, to wait on Mr. Baber and demand satisfaction in the usual way. Mr. Baber refused to attend to this, on the ground that he was not responsible to Lieutenant Brown for acts done in discharge of his official duty. A second message from Lieutenant Brown, by Mr. Thomas Gahagan, also a Civil Servant of the Company, was treated in a similar manner by Mr. Baber. In consequence of some offensive remarks upon Mr. Douglas, imputed to Mr. Baber, Mr. Gahagan waited upon the latter in Mr. Douglas's name to demand personal satisfaction. Meantime Lieutenant Brown proceeded to *post* Mr. Baber publicly as "A liar and a coward."

The matter was brought to notice of Government, who called upon the three persons to explain their conduct, and upon investigation ordered the persons who had taken part against Mr. Baber to be removed from Tellicherry. Under this order, Lieutenant Brown, Messrs. Douglas, Gahagan and Harrison, were expelled, and the Governor in council officially intimated that he continued to approve highly of the conduct of Mr. Baber.

## THE GERMAN MARK.

"GERMANY IS LARGELY MEETING REPARATIONS PAYMENTS BY THE SALE OF HUGE QUANTITIES OF PAPER MARKS ABROAD."

*(Madras Mail, Reuter's Service-11th October).*

That is the victorious Allies are themselves paying the reparations due by Germany, unless at some future date a tremendous recovery occurs in the value of the German Mark, and many people are buying Marks with the intention of locking them up with the hope that some-day they will again be worth something approaching their pre-war value. Is there anything in the past history of the world, which justifies the belief, that a currency which has depreciated to the extent to which the German Mark has done, can ever recover to any material extent. If there is, we have not found it, and we propose to give a short resume of the fate of other greatly depreciated paper money in the past.

It would take more space than we wish to give, to go into detail reasons for the depreciation which occurred in different countries, but the usual causes were wars, civil wars and revolutions.

In 1761 Austria issued Certificates of 25 and 100 Florins, bearing interest, these soon entered into circulation, and in 1811 owing to depreciation, were replaced by "Redemption Certificates" on the basis of one for every 5 original certificates, a repudiation of 80 % of their value. By 1816 these Redemption Certificates had lost two thirds of their value and were converted into Bank Notes at 250 for 100.

Russia in 1768 issued paper "*assignats*", which in 1834 were replaced by "*Ruble credits*" on the basis of one for three and a half, of these later  $1\frac{1}{2}$  were in 1896 declared equal to 1 silver ruble, a further repudiation of one third of their value.

After the declaration of Independence by the United States in 1776, the settlers declined to tax themselves sufficiently, and resumed the issue of paper money, which had previously been prohibited by the Mother country. By 1780 it had depreciated to such an extent that it was redeemed by new bills at the rate of 40 old for 1 new. The new issue went the way of the old, and next year four paper dollars of the new issue were worth only one silver dollar, the original issue being valued at 160 per dollar. They continued to circulate for a time at rates from 500 to 1000 per dollar and then becoming absolutely valueless, disappeared. The new bills were finally in 1790 redeemed at 100 to 1 dollar silver.



Spain was the first country to establish a Bank and to issue paper money, which it did in 1483. In 1780 paper notes under the name of "*vales reales*" were issued, and in 1817/18 this paper was made reciev-able at 5 to 1 in gold, repudiation of four fifths of the outstanding debt. In 1851 remainder of Government Notes were finally redeemed on basis of 80% of their value.

Peru started its paper currency in 1815 and in 1889 new Govern-ment notes were issued at 1 for 15 of the old.

The Argentine commenced its career as an independent State in 1820 with an issue of paper "*Pesos*", these had depreciated to such an extent by 1867 that they were, converted into coin at the rate of 25 for 1. Seven years later in 1874 owing to the Civil war more paper money was issued, but ten years afterwards this was replaced by "Coin Notes" at the same rate of one for 25. A third period of paper currency was introduced in 1885, which in 1899 was converted at a ratio of 2.27 for 1.

It is true that in America, the United States "*Green backs*" in 1864 had depreciated 66% and that in 15 years they were re-established at par, but the rate of exchange between Berlin and London in the issue of the "*Madras Mail*" quoted above, was given as 13,300 Marks per £ 1 sterling, a depreciation of 98.9% nearly the same as the last quotation recorded for the French "*assignates*" before their final disappearance. The scope for developement in Germany in the present year cannot be compared with the conditions in the United States in 1864, when the exploiting of the West had scarcely begun.

Should the German Mark ever recover to par, Germany will have to pay back for every million for which she is now selling marks, six hundred and fifty three millions, where is such wealth to come from.

A time must shortly arrive when a new currency will have to be introduced in Germany, whether then the old paper mark will be made convertible, at say some such ration as 500 to 1, or whether the paper mark will simply disappear as currency, the future alone can tell the Russian Ruble has ceased to be quoted as being of any value at all.

### DIPAVALI.

1922 THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 18TH.

This festival which is always celebrated in the Coimbatore District with much firing of crackers and minature bombs, was instituted to celebrate the victory of Vishnu, over the demon Naraka-sura, a giant, whom he is said to have killed and to have entered his city early in the morning, when the people illuminated their houses and received him with great joy and acclamation. The custom is for the Hindus to get up early in the morning, fill the house with lights, and take an oil bath, put on new clothes and ornaments and invoke the aid of the gods to render the following year prosperous,

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT NO. 33 4TH TO 11TH OCTOBER 1922.

The Deputy Director was on tour in Cochin and Travancore. Experimental Stations (23rd to 30th September).

At *The Coffee Station, Sidapur*. The weather was bright and advantage was taken to spray plots 23rd A and B for the second time against Rust. Manuring has been completed and weeding done in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

At the *Tea Station, Peermade* there was some rain at the beginning of the week 0.64 inches. Most of the plots flushed well and an acre yield of 106 lbs, was obtained over 6.37 acres. Artificial manures, composts and wood ashes were applied. Pruning was done on 1 69 acres.

At the *Rubber Station, Mooply* only 0.05 inches rain was recorded. Tapping was regular and a total of  $119\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. wet sheet and  $13\frac{7}{8}$  lbs. wet scrap was obtained. Tephrosia Candida sown in November 1921 was lopped and yielded 2,650 lbs. of green stuff per acre. Tapping experiment results are as follows :—

Plot	System	Yield per tree per day.
1 to 12	1/3rd section daily	0.28 oz.
13	do. do.	0.28 oz.
14	do. alternate days	0.50
14 (a)	1/2 do.	0.54
15	1/3rd daily	0.30
16	do. do.	0.39
17 to 19	do. do.	0.24

At the *Rubber Station, Tenmalai* Rainfall of 0.31. Yield was as follows,—

Plot	System	Yield per tree per day.
1 to 14	1/3rd daily	0.344 oz.
15 & 18	1/2 alternate days	0.737
17	1/3rd do.	0.615
16 & 19	1/3rd daily	0.746
20	do.	0.425
24 A	do. morning	0.438
24 B	do. evening	0.301
24 C	do. do.	0.321

D. G. MUNRO,  
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts.



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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

*Rubber Restriction.*      The Ceylon Legislative Council passed the Rubber Restriction Ordinance on Friday 20th October and the new Scheme for restriction will come into force as from 1st November. Plantation first Latex Crepe is now quoted at 11½-spot and 1s/- November-December. Quotation for Malayalam Plantations Ltd., rose from 15s. 6d. (6th September) to 19s. 6d.

*Steam Boilers Act.*      On another page we give a short note regarding the new Indian Boilers Act, which has been introduced into the Legislative Assembly. Under this "Boiler" means any closed vessel, exceeding five gallons in capacity, which is used for generating steam under pressure for use outside such vessel. Our enquiries in 1920 showed that there were only four estates in British India and two in Coorg, then using Steam Boilers. There were however three in Mysore and sixteen in Travancore and planters in those States will be to a greater extent interested in the new Act, if those States should introduce similar legislation to that of the Government of India.

*Import of  
Rubber  
into Canada.*

The "Canadian Export Pioneer" states that during the financial year 1921-1922 only 44,800 lbs. of raw Rubber were imported into Canada from India; the year previous none at all; in 1919-1920 5,000 lbs. only as compared with 448,284 lbs. during the twelve months 1918-1919.

*Electric Light  
and  
Egg Laying*

In the report on the Poultry Husbandry Department of the Manitoba Agricultural College (Canada) account is given of the experiment made in respect to effect of electric lighting on egg laying. These experiments extended over three winters with White Leghorns and Barred Rocks and the results obtained clearly show that the use of electric light possesses distinct advantages for winter laying: the use was limited to the months of October to December, but the birds whose quarters were lighted lay many more eggs, and the total revenue for the year was far superior to that obtained from birds not subjected to light. Experiments on these lines might be worth trying by planters in the Kanan Devans and Anamalais where electric light is easily available.

*Rubber Paving.*

The North British Rubber Company, Ltd., have offered the Corporation of Edinburgh to supply rubber paving blocks free of charge, for experiments in public streets, and the committee of that Corporation have recommended that a portion of Fountain bridge and Gilmore Park be laid with these blocks.

*Cricket.*

We regret to learn that the match between the South Indian Athletic Association and the Anamalais Planters, which had been arranged for the 2nd and 3rd prox, at Coimbatore has had to be cancelled owing to difficulty of men being able to get away. The fixture at Madras on 26th and 27th December between Madras Cricket Club and the South Indian Planters' Cricket Club, has, we learn been confirmed.

*Transparent  
Rubber.*

The "Malayan Tin and Rubber Journal" has much to say, in the last number to hand, on the matter of so called "Rubber Glass" a transparent form of rubber invented by Mr. Fordyce Jones, although at present this lacks rigidity, that is, a soft rubber and not hard rubber glass, the latter may be attained by further research, and in any case there is the prospect of the new product being used in many different directions.



## INDIAN BOILERS ACT.

In 1920 the Government of India constituted a Boiler Law Committee to enquire into the matter of the different Acts in force in India respecting Steam Boilers and in the following January the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. appeared before that Committee to give evidence on behalf of the Planting Industry.

As a result of the Report of the Committee, a new Act known as the Indian Boilers Act was introduced into the Legislative Assembly on the 6th September last.

There are at present seven Provincial Acts dealing with boilers, some framed many years ago, and now much out of date, and all of them inconsistent with each other. The result is that boiler which is allowed to work up to a certain pressure in one Province can only be worked at a much lower pressure when transferred to another Province, and in the interests of safety all boilers should be regularly inspected wherever it may be situated, and it is wrong that in certain Provinces there should be no Boiler Law in force at all.

To secure uniformity and to insist on the registration and regular inspection of all Boilers throughout India can only be attained by an all-Indian Act and the new Act now presented to the Legislative Assembly is to carry this into effect.

The chief difference between the new Act and Madras Act III of 1893 as amended by Acts of 1904 and 1909 is that under the new Act any main pipe through which steam passes directly from a boiler to a prime mover, and connected fittings of such pipe will come under the provisions of the Bill, as regards inspection and testing. A steam pipe can be as dangerous as a boiler, it is therefore necessary to provide for the regular inspection of steam pipes.

Certificates of competency will no longer be required of boiler attendants, as was the case under some of the Boiler Acts in force hitherto, although they were not necessary under the Madras Act. But this will not absolve the owner of any boiler from the responsibility of seeing that the man in charge of it is capable of looking after it: power is therefore reserved to the Chief Inspector to prohibit the working of a boiler if it is in charge of an incompetent person.

Although the new Act will not extend to boilers on ships, or well organised Railways in charge of competent Engineers, it will embrace tramways and the smaller railways.

Electrical and suction gas plant has, on estates, so superseded the use of steam, that the Act does not concern the planting Community to anything like the extent it would have done ten years ago.

Planters, in the Madras Presidency, have worked under the Provisions of the steam Boilers and Prime Movers Act of 1903 for nearly twenty years, without any difficulty or reasonable complaint, and the mass of Legislation now being turned out, for safe guarding and protecting the interests of the workman, would be welcomed and received without misgivings, if it were certain, the persons and inspectors appointed under the Acts to see the details carried out, would be competent.

The smooth and effective working of the Factory Act, the Workmens' Compensation Act and this Boiler Act, are dependent on practical and experienced men being employed to see the carrying out of their provisions, and the pressure now being put on all Departments to introduce Indians to posts or responsibility even if their knowledge and experience is not as great as Europeans and Americans available does give rise to some doubt as to what will be the results in the near future.

A certificate granted by an in-experienced Inspector as to the reliability of a Steam Boiler or Steam pipe, may well be far more dangerous than no inspection at all.

#### **AMALGAMATION AS A PANACEA FOR RUBBER PLANTING TROUBLES.**

On several occasions during the last few years the suggestion has been made that rubber planting companies would serve their own interests by joining in a huge amalgamation. This same suggestion is now being made to the Industry again from two different quarters. We have Mr. J. S. M. Rennie writing in "The Times Trade Supplement" of the 16th inst. and propounding his own scheme towards that end, and a trans-Atlantic visitor, Mr. Edgar B. Davis, with another scheme of a rather different kind which he has explained at meetings held in London and the Hague during the past week. The two principal points that are usually put forward in favour of a big amalgamation of planting companies are : (1) that it would lead to important economies, having the effect of reducing the cost of production of plantation rubber ; (2) that it would result in unification of policy. The first supposed advantage would have some weight with us if we could already find that as a matter of fact the costs of production of very large planting companies are lower than those of concerns working moderate acreages. As a general rule we do not find this to be so.

As regards the second supposed advantage—unification of policy—the question arises whether it cannot be obtained at less cost to the Industry and with less danger to the future interests, both of producers and consumers, by other means than amalgamation. There are (it seems to us) as many, if not more, difficulties in the way of reaching a common agreement on policy by other means. Moreover, the manufacturing interests who would look not unkindly on a temporary and terminable pact between the plantations on the subject, say, of the prevention of over-production, or upon a scheme of crop restriction by Government intervention, would be roused into active hostility by



the threat of any hard and fast amalgamation of planting interests big enough to be able to control selling prices and regulate output. Whatever might be the aims of such an amalgamation at the outset, there would always be the risk of subsequent modification of policy in a direction unfavourable to consumers, and giving credit to the framers of such schemes for sweet reasonableness in their intentions, it is still true that the conception of what is reasonable held by any body of men differs greatly according to the strength or weakness of their position and their ability or inability to dictate terms.

Another point of view from which we regret the resurrection of amalgamation as a panacea for rubber trade problems at the present moment is that it may lead to confusion of counsels. More serious still, it may create a wrong impression in certain high quarters as to what the Rubber Industry really wants. The Rubber Grower's Association has just associated itself with one particular effort that is being made to find an exit for the Rubber Planting Industry from its difficulties, and while there is a probability or even possibility of that effort bearing fruit it would be a thousand pities to cloud the issue.

While disagreeing with Mr. Rennie in his assumption that the measure of co-operation or control which is necessary to keep the planting industry from being swamped under its own excess production can only be effectively exercised through amalgamation, we find in his article much with which we agree. That real costs of production have not been reduced to the extent sometimes made out, and that increased production or an overlaid market reduces the sale price at a quicker rate than it reduces costs, are two of his leading points. Similar statements were made by Mr. F. Copeman at the annual meeting of the Eastern International Trust. Mr. Copeman rightly pointed out that many of the so-called economies have been achieved at the cost of changes in the method of cultivation, which are not always for the best, and that under a system of proper care for the welfare of the trees real costs must tend to increase. His further contention that had all the companies followed the lead of the least far-sighted in the way of production we should now have rubber at 3d. or 4d. per lb., or unsaleable at even that price, will hardly be combated. In connection with the argument that under the scheme of graduated export duties now being considered by the Stevenson Committee the taxation would fall wholly on British companies to the advantage of Sumatra and Java, he pointed out that this would only be so while the price remained below the level at which the Netherlands E. Indies' export tax comes into operation. So far as it did occur he is evidently of the opinion that it would have to be put up with; but he held out considerable hope that the response to the invitation to control outputs voluntarily would, if the Stevenson scheme were adopted, be very substantial among the British-owned undertakings operating in the Dutch Indies, where, by the way, the Eastern International Trust has no less than 59 per cent. of its investments.

*(The India Rubber Journal 23-9-22.)*

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

### MYSORE DIVISION REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1922.

During the first half of the month one or two showers have fallen, but the rainfall on the whole is insufficient and in the Taluks of North Mysore crops are withering.

The latest Gundlupet Shandy Prices are:—

Ragi	per pullah of 100 Mysore Seers	Rs. 7
Rice	" " "	23
Cholam	" " "	9
Gram	" " "	13

In the Taluks of Nagamanagala, Channarayapatna, Gubbi, Krishnarajpet and Mandya, paices are about Re. 1—0—0 per pullah higher. In the Hassan District there is a good deal of plague and Influenza is also prevalent but mortality is not high.

C. C. KENT,

SUPERINTENDENT.

### RUBBER LAWNS.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT OF THE "*South Indian Observer*," writing under date of 21st September says,— "Apropos new uses proposed for rubber, I hear that there is another project for making grass out of this material. A city man interested in rubber production showed me strips of specially prepared material suitable, as the inventors contend confidently, for bowling greens. The suggestion is that a level ferro-concrete foundation should be covered with green rubber three eights of an inch thick, and giving precisely the same effect for bowling purposes as the best Cumberland turf. The cost works out at about the same figure as actual turling, but the rubber substitute would have the advantages of being weather proof, available all the year round, more durable, and infinitely cheaper in upkeep. It is further claimed that by flooding the green during frosts an excellent curling or skating ground would be readily available. Whether all these expectations will be realised, I am quite unable to say, but the promoters of the rubber grass project think so, and also believe the material would be excellent for lawn tennis Courts, and even for putting greens. Golfers are a conservative race, and those I have consulted on the subject are almost violently hostile."



## MOTOR TRACTORS IN INDIA.

SPECIAL REPORT BY CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER.

From time to time during the last twenty years (writes Mr. Chisholm, the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Calcutta), attempts have been made to introduce motor or steam-driven agricultural machinery into India. Thousands of pounds were spent by one English firm before the war in an attempt to introduce modern threshing machines. Threshers were set up at several points throughout India in charge of mechanics employed by the importing firm, and the peasants were invited to bring their grain to be threshed free of charge. The scheme proved to be a thorough failure, as the ryots would not bring their grain to the thresher. The chief reason for the failure is said to be the intense conservatism of the Indian peasant, whose farming methods have not changed in a thousand years. It has also been said that the ryot thought that this new fandangled machine was only a ruse on the part of the zemindar (large land-owner) or Government to get more money out of him. The Indian peasant is loth to let a third party get control of his grain until he has received his money for it. Other firms have made efforts to introduce modern threshing machinery, but it is said that they have all meet with failure.

The situation is different, however, with the tractor-driven plough. A few tractors have been used in India for several years by companies operating tea, sugar and rice plantations. Company owned plantations form a comparatively small fraction of India's total agricultural area, but the peasant in some sections of the country is thus becoming accustomed to the tractor, and it pleases him to see how easily hard ground is turned over by the tractor plough. The use of the tractor is again complicated, however, by the prevalent custom of cultivating land in tiny patches—a tenth to a quarter of an acre in extent, separated by low embankments of earth which serve as "line fences" for the delineation of ownership and also for the retention of water. Under such circumstances the use of the tractor plough is out of the question.

On the other hand, every province in India contains considerable acres of culturable waste land of excellent quality in excess of the cultivating capacity of the existing village population by ordinary methods. Most of this "culturable waste" had been at one time sown to rice, but as it is customary to abandon rice fields after a certain period of cultivation, such lands soon grew heavy grass and reeds. When the ryot wishes to bring this land under cultivation again he finds that his primitive oxen-drawn plough is not strong enough to break the heavy sod, and that it requires the most laborious hand digging to bring it into cultivation again. As agricultural labour

in India has in recent years not only been scarce but also extremely inefficient owing to fevers and insufficient nourishment, the area of land in "culturable waste" and "current fallow" is now very large. Agricultural statistics compiled by the Government of India show that the net area sown to crop in recent years has averaged between 200 and 225 million acres, while "culturable waste" amounted to over 110 million acres and "current fallows" to some 60 million acres. Between 1918 and 1920 the net area sown dropped about 10 per cent., while the areas in "culturable waste" and "current fallows" increased 10 per cent. In other words, out of India's cultivated total area of 390 million acres, some 40 per cent. is now out of cultivation.

This serious state of affairs is now engaging the attention of the agricultural officers of the various provinces, who realise that the tractor-drawn plough offers the only solution to the problem of bringing more land under active cultivation. Some of these officers have been provided by the Government with tractors for demonstration, while in other cases the tractor manufacturers have supplied the necessary machines and demonstrators. Usually the zemindars or landowners do not possess sufficient initiative to purchase their own outfits, so that the agricultural officers of the Government together with tractor companies and their distributors, are doing most of the pioneer work and are in many cases beginning to make it pay.

The method usually followed of introducing the tractor plough is as follows. The Government officer or company's representative approaches a large landowner who has several hundred acres of culturable waste in his domain, and offers to plough it for him, providing the expenses of the operation are remitted to the Government or company after the first crop is taken off. As the zamindar receives no return from uncropped land he readily accepts such a proposition. As soon as the land is ploughed it is offered on profit-sharing terms to the tenants, who conduct all the remaining agricultural operations and return to the landowner one-third to one-half out of the produce obtained.

In many instances the tractor thus makes good profits for the zemindar, and he undertakes to purchase the outfit himself, paying for it in from three to five annual instalments. In spite of heavy initial expenses entailed, the rent thus recovered from "culturable waste" in one crop has in many instances more than covered the working expenses of reclamation. In future years the whole of the rent from this land will be clear profit, as, but for this reclamation expenditure, there was but little hope of the land being taken under cultivation.



Owing to the lack of skill and experience on the part of drivers, tractors in India have more breakages than they would in Canada. It is extremely important, then, to have a well-distributed spare part service in every area employing tractors. Several well-known American and European tractors are already well established in India with their own service men from the home factory. It will be necessary for any Canadian tractor manufacturer interested in the Indian market to send out his own representative to explain his machine to dealers and to assist his distributing house in India to organise the territory. It is of very little use merely to appoint an agent in India and to send him a demonstration tractor. The agent should have the expert technical assistance of the service man from the home plant.

The two or three tractor manufacturers who are now engaged in an intelligent organisation of this market will reap a certain reward in the future. The Indian stays with any machine or tool he has found to his liking, and it is very difficult to change him. The tractor will undoubtedly blaze the way for other agricultural machinery, and the manufacturer who now successfully establishes his tractor on the market will have an immense lever in selling other products bearing his name to the Indian landowner.

—*Canadian Export Pioneer*

### DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, INDIA RUBBER STATISTICS, 1921.

We received, some time back, the official Statement relating to the area, production and stocks of Rubber in India in the year 1921, but have not previously reviewed it, as owing to the low price of the commodity, voluntary restriction being carried out by planters during a part of the period under review and the Moplah Rebellion, the figures are abnormal, and of little importance in comparison with previous years, or as exhibiting the true conditions of the Industry in Southern India.

The total area under Hevea Rubber in Madras, Coorg, Mysore, Travancore and Cochin in 1921 was 60,704 acres, as compared with 61,020 during the previous year, a reduction of 316 acres. The total area tapped, in which is included the whole area in the Moplah zone, which was only tapped in first six months of the year, when yields are small, was 42,064 acres and the total crop 5,356,048 lbs. or an average per acre of 127 lbs. The total crop the previous year being 8,892,170 lbs.

Total stocks of Hevea Rubber in Southern India on 31st December 1921 were 1,810,421 lbs. compared with some 3,537,000 lbs. at same date 1920.

The figures given as regards Ceara are evidently incorrect, this rubber was only tapped in Travancore and according to statement 189 acres produced 47,520 lbs. or 250 lbs. per acre, we think the areas shown as "tapped" and "untapped" have been misplaced and that 1701 acres produced the crop or say 28 lbs. per acre,

## COFFEE.

We have by this mail received the following dated the 5th instant from Messrs. Leslie & Anderson, London, through Messrs Peirce Leslie & Co, Mangalore.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS, DELIVERIES AND STOCKS OF COFFEE AT THE  
PORT OF LONDON FOR THE 39 WEEKS ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER OF  
THE YEARS 1922 & 1921.

	LANDED.		HOME CONS.		EXPORT.		STOCKS.	
	1922.	1921.	1922.	1921.	1922.	1921.	1922	1921.
British W. India.								
Tons. ...	193	205	110	152	129	305	135	188
British E. India.								
Tons. ...	3242	4482	1590	2791	345	1540	1714	1085
Total British Plantation.	3435	4637	1700	2943	474	1845	1849	1273
Mocha	534	286	331	340	90	217	288	131
Foreign East India.	144	954	350	208	1569	769	893	3038
Brazil	30514	3352	812	924	1212	2760	31706	3959
Columbian.	1765	2638	640	833	729	2928	820	550
Costa Rica.	9037	5359	5092	3854	976	2188	3640	910
Guatemala, etc.	2038	1630	753	588	681	1790	2935	2828
African.	2447	3249	2347	2357	430	1217	759	1485
Total Foreign.	46479	17468	10325	9104	5687	11869	41041	12901
Grand Total.	49914	22105	12025	12047	6161	13714	42890	14174

The statistical position, as shown by above figures, would lead us to assume that the outlook for Coffee prices might be unfavourable but it has again to be stated that of the 31,706 tons of Brazilian Coffee in stock here over 31,000 tons is still held by the Brazilian Government under their Valorization scheme and is not for sale at current market prices : The present estimate of the 1922-23 Brazilian Crop is under six millions of bags, which is a relatively small Crop.

The stock of Costa Rica Coffee is large but we hear the 1922-23 crop is estimated at about 60 per cent of the 1921-22 crop. It will be noticed the Home consumption of this Coffee has increased during this year at the expense of the East India Coffee.

The Export figures continue very disappointing but not to be wondered at in view of the depreciated exchanges.

The general opinion of the market appears to be that prices for Mild Coffees will be maintained at about current values at any rate for another year.



U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS SHIPMENT OF SOUTH INDIAN PROCDUE *during* SEPTEMBER 1922.

	From.	To other		Ceylon.	United Kingdom.	Europe.	Asia.	Africa.	America.	Australia.
		ports in India.								
<b>TEA</b>	Madras.	440	...	...	13,595	...	360	...	...	...
	Calicut.	23,165	...	...	304,171	800	...	...	...	...
	Cochin.	8,937	32,141	...	342,907	...	...	1,000	...	...
	Tellicherry	...	...	...	37,233	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuticorin.	...	169,719	...	676,327	...	...	...	...	...
	Alleppy.	...	11,664	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Totals.	32,542	213,524	1,374,233	800	360	1,000	...	...	...
	Previously.	114,800	1,045,838	11,582,548	7,380	1,454	31,065	763,659	...	403
	Total Pounds since 1-4-22	147,342	1,259,362	12,956,781	8,180	1,814	32,065	763,659	...	403
	15,169,606 lbs.	488	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...
<b>COFFEE</b>	Madras.	...	...	...	...	502	...	...	...	...
	Calicut.	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...
	Mangalore.	280	...	...	...	1,046	...	...	...	...
	Tellicherry.	...	...	...	...	300	...	32	...	...
	Bombay &c.	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Totals.	768	35	...	...	1,848	19	32	...	...
	Previously.	8,594	44	32,720	63,073	6,860	480	2,160	...	7,160
<b>RUBBER</b>	Total since 1-4-22	123,793cwts.	79	32,720	64,921	6,879	512	2,160	...	7,160
	Calicut.	...	12,623	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cochin.	11,190	74,805	94,131	...	...	...	21,618	...	...
	Tellicherry.	...	...	15,819	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Totals.	11,190	87,428	109,950	...	...	...	21,618	...	...
	Previously.	567,526	736,375	1,540,386	121,236	...	...	831,249	...	...
	Total since 1-4-22	578,716	823,803	1,650,336	121,236	...	...	852,867	...	...

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents.)*

Sholayar Estate  
Valparai P. O.  
25th October 1922.

## PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS.

DEAR SIR,

I see your note under this heading in your issue of the 21st.

I received some bulbs and seeds from Holland only last Mail. Am I to understand that in future their importation will not be allowed and that I shall have to purchase from firms in the country or not at all?

I have an idea that importation is allowed if the plants or bulbs are first fumigated by the consignor. Is this not so?

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. COTTON.

(When making the Note, which appeared last week, we were chiefly looking to the effect of prohibition in respect to import of plants, seeds, etc., wanted for commercial planting purposes, and the Note is too sweeping. The regulation is that no plants shall be imported into India by post. . . without fumigation at a prescribed port, and this was doubtless done in respect of the bulbs and seed you received. Ed.)

## FREIGHT RATES TO LONDON.

Per 50 C. Ft.

TEA *From Calcutta.*

£ 2-7-6 less 5s. discount for Cash.

TEA & RUBBER *From Colombo and West Coast.*

47s. 6d. less 10 per cent Rebate to Contractors.

## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

(BY CABLE)

London 27th October 1922.  
112s/- per cwt. Market quiet



# The Planters' Chronicle

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(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 3RD NOVEMBER 1922

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET QUIET

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

*Inter-District Tennis Tournaments* We would particularly draw attention of all District Associations and planters, interested in the Inter-District Tennis Tournaments, to the suggestions made at the Meeting of the Central Travancore Planters' Association and the proceedings of which are published in this issue. They point out that if the several matches are played at different places and different times, the expenses involved are too heavy for an Association to meet, and unless expenses are born by an Association it is not always the best players that can represent a District, but only those players who can afford to meet their own. The Executive Committee are anxious to learn the views of those interested in order that they can take the matter into consideration when framing new rules, and the Secretary will be glad to learn as soon as possible what the general opinion on the matter is.

### HASSAN MANGALORE RAILWAY.

In response to representations made by the United Planters' Association when forwarding on the resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting, the Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore replies,—

“ In continuation of my letter No. 1451/C. B. dated (Camp) Mysore, 23rd September 1922, acknowledging receipt of your letter in the matter of the Hassan-Mangalore Railway project, I am directed to forward herewith, for your information, a copy of the Diwans reply to the Addresses presented to him at the opening of the Representative Assembly at Mysore on the 2nd October 1922 containing the reply of the Government to a similar request of the South Mysore Planters' Association.

“ 2. It is seen from estimates prepared by Mr. Richards which are the most up to date and accurate, that a Metre Gauge line of 49 miles within the Mysore State would cost Rs. 85.72 lakhs and for a 2ft 6 in. Gauge line the cost would be Rs. 49.56 lakhs. The State is not in a position at present to find the heavy capital required, particularly as the chances of the line paying are reported to be practically nil.

“ 3. In these circumstances, I am directed to state that His Highness' Government regret they cannot hold out any prospects of the Hassan-Mangalore Railway Project being taken up by them in the near future”,

The following is an extract from the reply of the Diwan to the Addresses presented him on the 2nd October last.

“ I regret I cannot hold out any prospects to the South Mysore Planters' Association, that the Hassan Mangalore Railway project will be taken up early. Our present position in respect of the railway programme has been fully dealt with by me in my opening address and no capital outlay on new lines can be contemplated from State funds for some years to come.”

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE--MYSORE STATE.

We have this week received the Report of the work of the above Department for the year ending 30th June 1920. Anything from the pen of Dr. Coleman dealing with planting matters, will always be worth studying but it is an immense pity that these reports should be issued so a long time after the period to which they refer.

Under the Mycologist Section, we find that the outbreak of Black Rot of Coffee was studied at Koppa and that the short-lived basidiospores of the fungus were obtained only between the first showers of June and the end of that month, so that they would appear to only exist for about two weeks.

Owing to attack by two species of parasitic fungi of Green Bug, this pest has ceased to be a serious one in Mysore.



**CENTRAL TRAVANCORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, (*Incorporated.*)**

Minutes of Second Quarterly General Meeting held at Peermade Travellers' Bungalow on Saturday, October 21st 1922, at 10 a. m.

Present:— Messrs. E. C. Sylvester, (Chairman), J. S. Wilkie, J. M. Wilkie, J. F. Fraser, R. F. Vinen, A. R. St. George, R. Tait, J. H. Cantlay, G. S. Napier Ford, R. J. McMullin, C. Patterson, C. Rowson, C. N. Ricketts, W. B. Glenie, C. J. Madden, A. V. Mawer, Dr. McCormack & W. A. J. Milner (Hon: Secretary)

1. Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

2. *Correspondence.*

(a) Read telegram of 28th September from the Association congratulating His Highness The Maha Raja on attaining his 65th birthday.

(b) *Tundus.* Read letter of 2—10—22 from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. It was decided that a copy of this letter should be circulated to members and that in future any tundus that might be issued be marked "*Valid in Peermade District only*", thus avoiding any breach of Inter-District Rule V.

(c) Read letter dated 11—8—22 from Chief Secretary to Government and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write in thanking Government for appointing a special Medical Officer to investigate Malaria in the Periyar Valley next year and to state that every assistance would be given this officer by members.

(d) Read letter from the Acting Principal, St. George's Homes, asking for subscriptions. A list was circulated in the room and the Hon: Secretary was instructed to collect the amounts promised and remit a cheque for the total to the Principal of the Homes.

(e) Read letter from Mr. Vadivel Pillay, stating that his fee for auditing the Association Accounts at end of current year would be Rs. 50/- and Rs. 25/- 30/- travelling expenses. These terms were agreed to.

The purchase of a Neo-Cyclostyle for the Association use was also sanctioned.

3. *Bangalore Delegates' Report.* A short Report supplementing the Book of Proceedings, already in the hands of all members, was read. In connection with the additional revenue the U. P. A. S. I. will secure when the increased all-in-cess to be paid by tea from 1—4—23 comes into force, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Milner and seconded by Mr. Sylvester, was carried:—

"That in view of the enhanced U. P. A. S. I. cess to be paid by Tea next year this Association considers that all those agencies of the Labour Department which have been closed down owing to lack of funds should be re-opened and some new agencies should also be opened, if possible."

*Delegates Expenses.* Mr. Cantlay proposed:

"That the old allowance of Rs. 100/- for car, Rs. 10/- per day batta and Rs. 100/- rail fare should be raised to cover the present actual cost viz. Rs. 110/- car hire, Rs. 15/- per day batta & Rs. 160/- rail fare".

Seconded by Mr. Ford and carried unanimously.

Mr. St. George proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the delegates for attending the Meeting which was carried with applause.

3. (a) *Export Duty*. Proposed by Mr. Milner:

"That this Association would draw the attention of the U. P. A. S. I. to the report of the Indian Fiscal Committee in the Madras Mail of September 25th and to the recommendation re. abolition of Export Duty on tea and request them to take up the matter with the Government of Madras".

Seconded by Mr. Sylvester & carried.

(b) *Indian Tea Cess*. The Honorary Secretary was instructed to write in through the U. P. A. S. I. asking our member on Indian Tea Cess Committee to be good enough to ascertain and inform us of the minimum amount required to undertake an efficient advertising campaign in U. S. A.

4. *Sale of Tea Waste*. The proposed abolition of all sales of tea waste was fully discussed and it was eventually decided to leave the matter open pending information from the Kannan Devan Planters' Association as to whether tea waste is being sold in the High Range, and also pending reference to London Boards by Managers of Cos.

5. *Sri Mulam Delegate*.

Proposed by Mr. McMullin and seconded by Mr. Sylvester:

"That Mr. Fraser represent us at the forthcoming session of the Assembly. Carried unanimously.

The delegate was instructed to bring up the subjects of (a) Roads and (b) sale of fish unfit for human consumption in bazaars.

Mr. J. S. Wilkie proposed "That the delegates expenses should be fixed at Rs. 275/-including the Government batta"—Seconded by Mr. Cantlay and carried.

6. *Anti-Hookworm Campaign*. Dr. McCormack explained to the meeting that no campaign treatment had been so far gone in for on our estates but that 1875 cases had been treated individually in various dispensaries and that of these 1837 had been discharged cured or 90 percent. If campaign treatment was to be undertaken in future Dr. McCormack said that Government should first be asked to supply ankylostomiasis pamphlets in the vernaculars for distribution amongst the labour force on the estate and that supplies of the new drug carbon tetrochloride, costing only one-fifth as much as oil of chenopodium or thymol and requiring usually only one treatment, should be ordered from reliable chemists at home who could give a guarantee as to the purity of the drug supplied, it being most important that only chemically pure carbon-tetrochloride should be administered.

As regards Latrines, Dr. McCormack mentioned that on Tengakal and Tungamullay estates, where these had been in use, the decrease of hookworm disease was noticeable and he advised all estates to go in for them.



A hearty vote of thanks to the Doctor for his most interesting lecture was carried.

The meeting was strongly of opinion that all estates in the Association should take up the treatment of this disease in future by every possible means in their power.

7. *Income Tax.* Mr. Sylvester briefly explained what happened at the Trivandrum conference of 16th March 1922 when, pending the Government of India's decision, a provisional agreement to pay income tax on  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent of estates profits was reached, which was subsequently embodied in a G. O. Mr. Sylvester added that as yet, though so long ago as May 22nd the Imperial Government had fixed on 25% of profits as the assessment basis, the Government of Travancore had not issued an amending G. O. putting Travancore Estates on the same basis as those in B. India as was arranged at the conference should be done, and that this was the reason why the assessment papers recently served had been made out on the  $33\frac{1}{3}$ % formula.

Letters were read from the K. D. P. A. and the Travancore combined P. A. stating what their views on the matter were and the Honorary Secretary was requested to ask our planting member on Travancore Legislative Council, Mr. Mackie, to take the question up.

8. *Timber Values.* Read letter from Mr. Mackie stating that at our request he had written the Dewan on 8—9—22 asking for an interview on the following points in connection with the Rs. 35/- per acre offer : (1) definition of wooded area and whether bamboo and eeta jungle would be excluded (2) if park land is to be included, the number of trees per acre that will be held to constitute wooded area (3) in the case of any dispute when the wooded areas are measured up by the Forest officials to whom should an appeal be made (4) whether estates have to take up all their wooded area reserves at once or in portions as they require the timber and (5) whether the offer was to apply to lands granted subsequent to the G. O. of 1916 as well as to the older grants.

Up to date of the meeting Mr. Mackie had not unfortunately been able to secure the desired interview but Mr. Sylvester was able to inform members that he understood that, with regard to No. (1) of above, all bamboo and eeta jungle would be excluded ; as to No. (2) this had been referred to the Conservator of Forests for report and the result would be communicated to us as soon as the Conservator's report was received ; with regard to No. (3) an appeal to the Conservator of Forests could be made in the case of any dispute ; and that, as regards No. (5), the offer was to apply to all grants prior to 1913 and subsequent to the G. O. of 1916, grants made in between 1913 and the G. O. of 1916 having to pay timber value in any case. Mr. Sylvester also stated that he understood the Dewan was prepared in addition to grant a separate deed transferring the full ownership of all timber on these grants to those estates who accepted the offer. It was therefore clear that, as soon as the Conservator of Forests report regarding park land areas was received, there was nothing to delay an immediate settlement of this long pending matter on the lines proposed by Government.

9. *U. P. A. S. I. Tennis.* The Honorary Secretary was authorised to pay the account for the expenses Messrs. Clarke and Cantlay incurred in representing us at Madura amounting to Rs. 235.

As regards future tournament matches the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Milner and seconded by Mr. Wilkie, was carried unanimously.

"That the U. P. A. S. I. Executive Committee should be asked to consider whether the Tennis Tournament cannot be held at one place and at one time in future, and, that if this cannot be arranged, this Association regrets that it cannot enter for the Tournament."

It was explained that the above proposal, if adopted, would involve the minimum of expense to the participants and would also have other obvious advantages.

Mr. Mawer's suggestion that copies of this resolution should be sent to other Associations, asking them to support us, was approved.

10. *Roads.* Read letter from Mr. Sylvester complaining of the present disgraceful condition of the K. K. road 60th-70th miles and the Hon : Secretary stated he had written to the Executive Engineer and had received a reply to the effect that the remetalling of this section would be undertaken in the course of the current year.

Mr. Sylvester also brought up the bad state of the 54th-59th miles of the same road and the Honorary Secretary asked to write in to the Executive Engineer about this portion also.

11. *Other Business. S. I. N. A.* The Honorary Secretary was instructed to address the U. P. A. S. I. on one or two points in connection with the S. I. N. A. raised by a member.

*Tea Thefts Act.* It was decided that the Chief Secretary to Government should be approached regarding this and that other Travancore Associations should be asked for their support. The Honorary Secretary was also to communicate our views on the matter to our Planting Member, Mr. Mackie.

*Scientific Department.* The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that he understood the new Dy. Director of Agriculture, Planting Districts, Mr. Munro, would be visiting Experimental Station about the middle of November and would be accompanied by the Government Chemist and Bacteriologist, who would be prepared to take up work on helopeltis and fermentation of tea.

The Honorary Secretary was asked to inform Mr. Munro that we were very glad to hear of this arrangement and that we hoped that the programme of the visit might be communicated to us before hand and that it would allow of as much of the district being seen as possible.

*Date of Next Meeting.* This was fixed for the last Saturday in January next.

The Meeting then closed with a very hearty vote of thanks to the Chair.

E. C. SYLVESTER,  
Chairman.  
W. A. J. MILNER,  
Hon: Secretary.



## A REGISTERED LETTER TRICK.

Ingenuity of a perverted kind has been so lavishly employed by swindlers that one would have thought it almost impossible for it at this date to take a form so that its real nature is concealed.

The trick described here, however, is new to us, and may be to some of our readers, who will thank us for putting them on their guard

A man sent a wholesale house a registered letter dealing with some trifling matter, in the fairly safe assurance that the opening clerk would throw the communication into the waste paper basket and forget all about it. This, in fact, is precisely what happened. After about two months the firm received a complaint from the sender that on such and such a date he sent them an order for goods and money in payment, but is surprised that neither goods nor acknowledgement has reached him. The goods, states the writer, are no longer required, but he will thank them to return his cash. No such order or remittance appears to have come to hand, nobody knows anything about the matter, but on further correspondence the official receipt is appealed to, and is forthcoming. It looks as though somebody has been dishonest, but not the sender of the letter—to whom, in one case, the money that he did not send was finally returned, with apologies for the mistake.

The swindle came to light as the result of correspondence entered into with the Post Office authorities by firms who had similarly been made the subject of the "try on".

It is worth making a note to keep a record of all registered letters received, the date, name of correspondent, and contents.

*(The India Rubber Journal 7th October 1922.)*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

### COLONY & PROTECTORATE OF KENYA.

By the courtesy of the Director of Agriculture, Kenya Colony, we are this mail in receipt of the Annual Report of his Department for the year ending 31st March 1921.

From this we gather that the total area of land available "European" settlement was 6,060,000 acres and of this 52% was occupation. The total area under cultivation was 176,290 acres, representing an average of 149 acres of cultivated land per occupier, large tracts of land are devoted solely to stock raising.

The total number of European owners, occupiers or managers in occupation of land, and owners of live stock was 1,182, on 30th June 1920.

The export of Coffee for the year 1920-1921 was 122, 559 cwts. as compared with 66, 150 cwts. in the year previous, which the Director remarks "Reflects the very substantial progress made in the coffee industry", so the difference was not apparently due to a good crop following a poor one.

At the 30th June 1920, the total area planted with coffee was 27, 813 acres, of which 9,733 acres were under three years, 11,020 acres under six years, and 7,060 acres over six years of age. The actual yield of "clean coffee" for 1919-1920 was 71,970 cwts.

From statistical information furnished, the following average yields have been arrived at:—

Coffee 1 to 3 years of age	$\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per acre
„ 3 „ 6 Do.	2.86 cwt. „
„ 6 years & over	6.66 cwt. „

Although there has been a downward tendency in market prices for all qualities, provided the land has not been purchased at an exorbitant price, it is seen that coffee growing is a profitable pursuit. Large areas of the Colony are suited to the culture of coffee and further extension of the area under cultivation are expected.

With the provision of only one Coffee officer the Department is wholly unable to give adequate attention to the needs of the industry and the interests of individual planters. Large sums of money would be saved if planters were able to secure the advice necessary for the proper conduct of their operations, and with the great increase in the number of planters it is imperative that additional assistance should be afforded. Apart from other considerations the present staff is unable to properly administer the "Diseases of Plants Prevention Regulations", provided for the inspection of Coffee plantations. Reliable information based on accurate data is much needed and to this end in so far as the resources of the Department permit, arrangements are being made for experimental work, to be undertaken on manuring, methods of pruning, effect of shading and the most suitable variety of trees for shade purposes. The preparation of coffee for market is also receiving attention with a view to its improvement and efforts should be made to find new markets for the lower grades of coffee.

Borers have been prevalent, but fairly easily controlled by pruning and the injection of carbon bisulphide. Work on Thrips has advanced but it has not yet been possible to rear the insects from egg to adult. The chief diseases occurring in coffee were Leaf disease and Dieback, the former being noticeably more prevalent in June and July, following the long rains.



## KENYA COLONY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

Considerable activity in agricultural development has been witnessed. A number of new settlers arrived to take up agricultural holdings, chiefly under the "Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Ordinance." Much new capital was introduced into the country, estimated at £4,000,000, between March, 1920, and February, 1921. The effect of this, says the latest official report, was to create a sense of prosperity, but towards the close of the year depression set in, the influx of fresh capital ceased, primary products could only be sold at greatly reduced prices, and in some cases, notably in that of flax, trade had become so stagnant that land could not be sold even at low prices. Nor at any time when values had greatly decreased was relief obtained in the high costs of marketing through a reduction in ocean freights, which in several cases represented too high a proportion of the selling price of the product.

The first impression made upon the producer by these reduced values was that in some cases the Colony's chief agricultural products could no longer be produced at a profit. The abnormally high prices, which ruled during the war and for some time afterwards, created rather false hopes, were responsible for an outlay in capital expenditure and working costs which, in the light of subsequent events, was not justified. In some cases, too, land was bought at a price too high to enable it to be made a sound proposition, notably in the case of holdings upon which development had already taken place and which had reached the producing stage. The period of depression will not be without its benefits if it has taught landholders and managers the lesson of economy. There is already evidence that that result has been achieved, and costs of production have been much reduced. In the end, the question of agricultural production in Kenya will resolve itself into whether or not the Colony can compete with other countries on the oversea markets. The advantages which it possesses in respect of soil fertility, favourable climatic conditions, and cheap unskilled labour can only point to the conclusion that in respect of its main crops the settler can compete favourably with producers in other countries of coffee, sisal, maize, flax, and certain oil-seeds, provided always that he is not handicapped by railway and ocean freights. The trade in agricultural exports is passing through a somewhat difficult, unsatisfactory, but, it is hoped, transient stage.

The practice of the producer shipping his own produce, directly or indirectly, obtains to a degree which is not in the best interests of the agricultural industry. Under these conditions more capital is required or has to be raised to finance the proposition, and the view is held that the farmer should concern himself solely with the production of the primary product, and that marketing of it should remain in the hands of those who understand the business. Not until the farmer is able to sell his produce at its full market value, delivered, say, f. o. r. at his station, and receives payment in cash when the goods are delivered, will the trade be on a satisfactory basis.

The scale of production has hitherto been so limited that firms have not been disposed to establish buying agencies in this Colony, but there is evidence of a movement in this direction, and it may be expected that conditions and facilities offered will improve in the future.

In respect of certain products, e. g., bacon and dairy produce, the Colony has recently reached the stage when it has been able to satisfy local demands, and there is a small and growing surplus available for export. Here again a difficulty obtains which can only be overcome when the volume of the trade increases and becomes substantial. In the case of dairy products, it is desirable that consignments of uniform and reliable quality be exported, but in the absence of central or co-operative butter and cheese factories this cannot be achieved.

*(British Trade Journal.)*

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### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

#### REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1922.

I remained at Headquarters from the 1st to the 11th and from 29th to 30th. During the remainder of the month I was on tour in Coorg, Mysore and Nilgiri-Wynaad, visiting Coffee and Tea estates. The tour was interesting as being my first in the Planting Districts. I inspected the Coffee Experiment Station between the 13th and 20th. Report Nos. 28 and 29 were written for the Planters' Chronicle.

2. *Coffee Experiment Station, Sidapur.* The total rain-fall for the month amounted to 5.14 inches. For the first three weeks there was occasional rain and sunshine. The last week was bright and second spraying for leaf disease was finished. Forking and manuring has been completed.

3. The coffee looks fairly well with plenty of healthy foliage. The berries formed for the January showers are mature while those from the April showers are full-grown.

4. Supplies planted in the Hybrid areas are coming away well and keeping free from disease. The Hybrid plots look well and are making good progress. As far as growth is concerned there is not much to choose between Jackson's and Kent's, but the basket plants in both are superior to the bed plants.

5. In plot no. 3. which was collar-pruned, 25 shoots, which did not show signs of throwing out suckers, have been removed and supplies planted in their places. These seem to have been damaged by the heat when the old coffee bushes and the Athi shade trees were burned.



6. *Hemelia Vestatrix* can be found in practically all the plots, but is not by any means severe. *Kolerogam* was noticed in a few plants in plot 13 A. but the damage is slight. There are very slight traces of disease in the sprayed plots. The spraying which was done in May was not so effective as it should be owing to rain coming before the spray was properly dry. The plots have been re-sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture during the last week of the month and as the weather was good the spray has stuck well.

7. *Crotolaria Semperflorens* sown in 1921 grew to 12 feet high and yielded at the rate of 16,100 lbs. green stuff per acre. It was mulched on Plot Nos. 2, 5, 10 and 11 at the rate of 4,600 lbs. per acre.

8. *Caasa Hirsuta* yielded at the rate of 18,480 lbs. green stuff.

9. Forking has been completed and sickle and hand weeding continued.

10. 600 permanent shade plants were planted out. Re-supplying and mulching were undertaken and finished.

11. *Tea Experiment Station, Peermade.* Rain-fell on every day during the month except for a few days at the close. The first flush was quite good but the yields in the second round were comparatively low. The tea was practically free from disease.

12. *Crotolaria Semperflorens* and *Striata* put out in the tea came to nothing and although an odd plant here and there struggled along, the growth was a decided failure. *Tephrosia Candida* did not fare much better and suffered much from the heavy rains in July and more than half of the plants went out. Now that the heavy rains have ceased, growth is a little better. *Dadap* is shooting but does not look very healthy.

13. Pruning was started early in the month in plots 25 & 27 and the work continued in the other plots during the month. Prunings were buried. Manuring and forking were carried out according to plan.

14. Only II acres were plucked during the month and the yield is shown below:—

	Green leaf in lbs.	Yield per acre.	
		August 22.	Sept. 22.
First plucking.	1412.	61.2.	128.36.
Second plucking	1381.	99.2.	125.54.

15. *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply.* 9.46 inches of rain were recorded during the month. The abnormal leaf-fall, which started a second time towards the end of August did not become serious.

16. *Tephrosia Candida* sown in November 1921 was lopped towards the end of the month and gave only 2,650 lbs. green stuff per acre. It is coming away again.

17. *Centrosema Plumerii* is bearing seed and *Indigofera* is flowering.

18. Tapping was carried on in all the plots and yields are tabulated below:—

Plots. Tapping system.	Yields of wet rubber per 100 trees per day in lbs.		Percentage of scrap in wet weight	
	Septbr.	Septbr.	August	
1 to 12. $\frac{1}{3}$ section daily.	1.77	10.68	13.4	
13. do.	1.94	10.42	10.9	
14. $\frac{1}{3}$ section alternate days	2.99	9.92	12.1	
14. A. $\frac{1}{2}$ section do.	3.22	9.77	10.0	
15. $\frac{1}{3}$ section daily	3.00	11.32	13.6	
17-19. $\frac{1}{3}$ do.	2.68	10.61	13.8	

19. *Rubber Experiment Station, Tenmalai:*

12.22 inches of rain fell during the month, distributed over 23 days. Tapping was disturbed on the 18th, 20th and 21st by heavy rains. Out of the 2030 trees on the estate 146 were affected by Patch canker. Only one case of pink disease was noticed. 11 trees were damaged by wild pigs.

20. *Tephrosia candida* is growing fairly well. The part sown in November 1921 and pruned in July will soon be ready for a 2nd pruning.

21. Statement of yields are given below :—

Plot.	Tapping system.	Yield of wet rubber per 100 trees per day in lbs.		Percentage of scrap Wet weights.	
		Sept.	August.	Sept.	August.
1 to 14.	$\frac{1}{3}$ section daily.	2.3	2.66	8.6	7.4
15 & 18.	$\frac{1}{2}$ section alternate day.	4.55	4.36	6.9	6.7
17.	$\frac{1}{3}$ do.	3.44	3.00	6.8	7.5
20.	$\frac{1}{3}$ section daily.	2.73	2.93	7.8	7.1
24. A.	$\frac{1}{3}$ section daily evening.	2.77	2.62	8.8	9.6
24. B.	$\frac{1}{3}$ section daily morning	2.15	2.56	9.4	7.8
24. C.	$\frac{1}{3}$ section daily evening	2.29	2.59	8.9	9.3
	only				

D. G. MUNRO,

Offg. Deputy Director of Agriculture,  
Planting Districts,



# The Planters' Chronicle.

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(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 3rd NOVEMBER 1922  
112s/-PER CWT. MARKET QUIET.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### *Coffee in the United States.*

The steadily increasing demand in the United States for the best quality of all food stuffs has not been without a distinct influence on coffee manufacture and distribution. The preference for high grade coffee and the increasing neglect of the lower grades have been the outstanding feature during the past year. Mild coffees used in the States are imported from Columbia, Venezuela, the Central American Republics and Mexico, but it must be remembered that in pre war days most of the coffee from these countries was shipped to Europe, as the price was considerably higher than that for Brazils, the quality of which then satisfied the United States, and although South India sends little if any coffee direct to America, the withdrawal of Central American Coffee from the European market must tend to keep up the price of our local product.

*The Soil  
and  
Agricultural  
Meteorology.*

We have received from the Agricultural Department Madras two pamphlets By R. C. Cecil Wood, M. A., whom most of our readers will remember as principal of the Agricultural, Coimbatore. "Agricultural Meteorology" Price 1 anna 6 pies, and "The Soil" Price 3 annas.

Although perhaps there is little for the experienced planter to learn from these, they might well be placed in the hands of the subordinate Staff and men who have not long been in the country. They are obtainable at prices quoted, plus postage from the Superintendent, Government Press Madras.

*Assam  
Labour  
Enquiry.*

The Report of the Assam Labour Enquiry Committee of 1921-22 is now to hand. It consists of a majority report of 107 pages, a minority report of 4 pages and 32 pages of appendices. The point of chief interest to

Planters in South India is as regards Act XIII of 1859. The Majority of the Committee (7) are in favour of the abolition of Act XIII and are unable to agree to the suggestion that the Act as amended in 1920 should be given a further trial or that further amendments should be considered. The Governor of Assam, in council agrees with this and considers that the time has come when in the interests of the Industry and of the Labourers alike, the Act should cease to apply to tea gardens in Assam.

*Harvesting  
Coffee.*

A Mr. De Amaral Castro, according to the International Review of the Science and Practice of Agriculture (Rome) suggests that coffee should be harvested by shaking the shrubs

and afterwards collecting the berries that fall on the ground, he claims that it would prevent injury to the buds upon which the next crop depends and also economise labour, the fallen berries should be collected within two or three months at the latest, before there is any risk of their being spoilt.

*Export Duty  
on Tea.*

The recommendation of the Indian Fiscal Commission as regards this duty is that as Tea is not a monopoly of India and Ceylon which both impose this export duty but have to meet increasing competition from Java, which in 1912, only supplied the Australian Market with 12 per cent of their requirements as compared with 41 per cent in 1919-1920, it is inexpedient to handicap Indian Tea by an export duty at however low a rate, and they hold therefore that the export duty on tea should be removed.

*Freight on  
Tea.*

Per 50 c. ft. From Calcutta £ 2-7-6 less 5s/- discount for cash. From Colombo and West Coast 47s/ 6d less ten per cent Rebate to Contractors.



**SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION** (*Incorporated*).

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting held at The Munzerabad Club, Saklaspur, on 26-10-22.

Present : Major A. L. Hill, O. B. E., M. C., (President), Messrs. H. F. Anderson, C. C. Couchman, Lt.-Col. W. L. Crawford, D. S. O. Messrs. M. A. G. de Weck, St. J. Hunt, C. Lake, E. M. Nixon, W. F. Scholfield, E. W. Rutherford, E. H. Young and A. Durham (Hon. Secretary).

The Notice calling the Meeting was read.

The President said :—"Gentlemen, before proceeding with the business of the Meeting, I wish to refer to the great loss we have sustained in the early death of Mr. Thiselton Anderson. The son of one of the pioneer planters in South Mysore, who was a Founder of Association, he more than once acted as our Honorary Secretary and will long be missed by us, both as a very good friend and as a most willingly helpful member of the Association. It is hard to realise that the long and valued connection of his family with us is now broken. I ask you to join in expressing to his Mother and family our deep sorrow and sincere sympathy with them in their sad bereavement."

This was agreed to in silence, all present standing.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

(1) U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting Delegates' Report : Col. Crawford read the report as follows :—

Gentlemen, your Delegates to the 29th Annual General Meeting of the U. P. A. S. I. beg to report as follows:—

You have all received the book of Proceedings of the Meeting, which opened on August 21st and closed on 24th, giving a very full account of the business transacted, so it is unnecessary for us to more than touch on a few particular points.

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT.** There was a considerable number of delegates who held the opinion that the Labour Department should cease to collect out-standing advances or serve warrants, and they succeeded in carrying a resolution that the Executive Committee should be asked to consider whether it would not be possible to reduce these branches of the Labour Department's work. Your Delegates pointed out that any such reduction would be fatal, or at any rate very harmful, to our interests and they hope that the Executive Committee will remember our views when the matter comes before them.

**RE-ORGANISATION.** The main feature of the Meeting was the threatened re-organisation. Before this was taken up all the Mysore and Coorg Delegates met to discuss concerted action and, with the exception of the North Mysore Delegates whose hands had been tied by their Association, they agreed that if it was seen to be necessary they would agree to subscriptions being increased to Rs. 1/8 per acre

for Coffee in order to preserve the present constitution of the U. P. A. S. I. After considerable discussion this was in effect carried, and the U. P. A. S. I. is to remain as now constituted.

**CUSTOMS DUTIES.** Your resolution re the classification of motor vehicles and accessories as luxuries for customs duties was carried with enthusiasm and attracted notice in the Northern India Press.

**HASSAN-MANGALORE RAILWAY.** Your resolution pressing once again for this Railway was carried.

**BOONDH GHAUT ROAD.** Your Delegates supported the North Mysore Planters' Association's resolution re the upkeep of this road and it was carried.

**CONCESSION PASSAGE RATES.** Your Delegates brought in and carried a resolution that the U. P. A. S. I. Buying Agency should take up the matter of obtaining concessions for its members.

**STATISTICS.** Your delegates supported a resolution that the rendering of Statistics by estates should be made compulsory by law and asked that such provision should be extended to Native States.

**S. I. P. B. F.** In order to secure the position of the S. I. P. B. F. in the event of the winding-up of the U. P. A. S. I., it was resolved to incorporate this Fund and your delegates supported this. Your resolution re the voting powers of members was amended to take effect after incorporation and was then carried. It is regretted that your resolution re limiting grants was lost.

In conclusion we beg to thank you for the honour you did us in sending us as your Representatives and trust that you are on the whole satisfied with the results of the Meeting.

(Sd.) W. L. CRAWFORD.

A. L. HILL.

C. LAKE.

The report was adopted by the Meeting.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary write to the Secretary U. B. A., asking what progress had been made in obtaining passage concession rates for members of the U. B. A.

(2) Dusserah Delegate's Report : Mr. S. J. Hunt read his report as follows : — "Gentlemen, as your Delegate I attended the Mysore Representative Assembly at the Dusserah. The Assembly opened at 12 noon on 2nd instant and on behalf of this Association I presented the following Address to the Dewan :—

To,

A. R. Banerji, Esq., M. A., C. S. I., C. I. E.,

Dewan to His Highness, The Maharajah of Mysore.

Sir,

On behalf of The South Mysore Planters' Association, I beg to offer you respectfully our hearty congratulations on your appointment



to the Dewanship of the State and to express to you how we welcome it. We are convinced that your well merited appointment will be of great benefit to the whole of the State, and, although the beginning of your term of office unfortunately coincides with a most regrettable financial stringency, we feel assured that your regime will be one of increasing prosperity for Mysore.

We believe that such prosperity is largely dependent upon the developement of railways and take this opportunity to lay before you and to ask your most earnest consideration for the long hoped-for Hassan-Mangalore line. We are encouraged to do so at the present time, in spite of the financial stringency already referred to, partly because we are given to understand that the Batkál scheme, to which we were always opposed, has been postponed, partly because we understand that South Kanara is very anxious to see the Hassan-Mangalore connection made, but chiefly because we are convinced that the maximum usefulness of the Mysore Railway System and the development of the State generally can never be attained until direct railway communication from Hassan to Mangalore and the West Coast is established. Such communication would be an invaluable asset to the State and the money spent upon it would be invested to the best advantage. We wish therefore respectfully to represent to you the prime importance and great value of the very early construction of this line.

In conclusion, may I reiterate The South Mysore Planters' Association's hearty congratulations on your appointment and convey to you our very good wishes for the future.

With regard to the Hassan-Mangalore Railway, the Dewan replied that he regretted he could not hold out any prospect of this railway project being taken up early, and said that no capital outlay on new lines could be contemplated from State Funds for some years to come, and suggested that the question be investigated by the District Board.

A representation I supported as one of concern to us was brought forward by Mr. Venkatarammiah of the South Mysore Native Planters' Association and others with regard to removing the restriction of growing cardamoms on coffee lands. The Dewan replied that the restriction placed against the cultivation of cardamoms on all coffee lands by the Order of Government dated May 23rd, 1922, has been very ably criticised by Mr. Venkatesaiya and I think his arguments are convincing. I agree that there is no justification for placing any such restrictions on all the old grants and the orders to that extent will be modified. Even as regards fresh grants for coffee, the necessity for imposing such a restriction will be further examined.

The Dewan hopes to tour our District shortly and his visit will be very welcome.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I thank you for doing me the honour of electing me your Delegate and I am glad to have had this opportunity of visiting the Dusserah at Mysore."

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hunt for his able representation of the Association was put from the Chair and carried.

The expenditure of Rs. 50/- incurred on the printing of the Address was sanctioned.

It was proposed by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Nixon and carried that the Hon. Secretary write to Mr. Venkatesaiya thanking him for his action in getting the order restricting the growing of cardamoms in coffee lands rescinded.

The following resolution, proposed by Col. Crawford and seconded by Mr. Lake, was carried:— "That Government be asked to appoint a Representative of the Planting Community of Mysore belonging to either the Indian or European Planters' Associations to serve on the Reformed Legislative Council to represent Planting interests."

Considerable discussion about the prohibition of clearing within 50 yards of water sources took place, but no resolution was brought forward.

It was decided that, in the event of a Railway Cess being proposed for Hassan District, our Representative on the District Board should press for the proceeds being applied to the extension of the line to Saklaspur and the West Coast.

It was suggested by the Chair and agreed to that the Honorary Secretary write to the Honorary Secretary Central Committee of the Mysore Associations, asking that a joint Meeting of the three Associations be held about July in order to arrange concerted action at the U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting and, if necessary, a joint Address at the Dusserah Session of the Representative Assembly.

(3) Incorporation : Amendment of the Articles of Association as resolved at the Meeting on 30-6-21 ; The President explained that, now the Association was incorporated, it was necessary to pass formally the amendments of the Articles of Association decided upon while in process of incorporation. It was proposed by Mr. Lake, seconded by Mr. Couchman, and carried :—"That the amendments of the Articles of Association recommended in the Report of the Rules Sub-Committee presented to the Association at the Meeting on 30-6-21 be adopted."

The Meeting, provisionally called for 16-11-22, will therefore be held to confirm this resolution.

(4) Election of a Member to the Committee : Owing to Col. Crawford's being unable to accept the Presidentship at the beginning of the year and to Major Hill's being elected in his place, there was a vacancy on the Committee. Col. Crawford was elected to fill it.



(5) Roads and Communications : It was resolved that the Honorary Secretary write to the Executive Engineer, Hassan Division, asking that the grants due lump-sum contractors on road contracts should, instead of being paid quarterly as at present, be paid half by September 30th and, provided the work was completed, half by December 31st of each year,

(6) Hassan Goods Shed : Major Hill and Mr. Rutherford, who had been into Hassan on 24th on the matter, reported that the contractor had been given definite orders to proceed with the building with effect from 15-10-22. Mr. Rutherford, who had originally agreed to do so jointly with the late Mr. T. Anderson, kindly consented to supervise the work and it was put from the Chair and agreed to that he be empowered to proceed with the building.

(7). Act XIII of 1859 : A letter from the Sec., U. P. A. S. I., re the probability of the repeal of this Act and the consequences was read and discussed. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Lake and seconded by Mr. St. J. Hunt, was carried:—"That this Association take legal opinion as to the advisability of drawing up printed receipt forms, possibly on the lines of Mr. Dunning's suggestions, for use by Maistries in recruiting labour in the event of the repeal of Act XIII of 1859."

(8). A letter from the Sec. U. P. A. S. I., re rent-free quarters and income tax in British India was read.

(9). Col. Crawford read a letter from Mr. Congreve, M. L. C., re the proposed Planters' Cup, and several subscriptions were promised. The Meeting then ended.

(Sd.) A. L. HILL, (President)

„ A. DURHAM, (Hon. Sec.)

Paper on the Table: Appeal from St. George's Homes.

### Notice.

### U. P. A. S. I. LABOUR DEPARTMENT COIMBATORE DIVISION.

Vide page 252 of Vol. XVII No. 16 Planters' Chronicle dated 22—4—22 K. N. Ramachandra Rao - Sub - Agent - Kottur, Pollachi Taluk, is no longer in the employ of the Labour Department. Estate Managers and Superintendents, sending Maistries down in connection with coolies from Kottur and surrounding villages, are requested to direct them to the Pollachi Agent.

J. H. BENNET,  
Superintendent,

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

### COIMBATORE DIVISION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1922.

*Weather:* Coimbatore District as a whole has experienced moderately heavy rain, the Eastern portion more than the Western. The Western portion is looking green, the grass as well as the crops coming on well. The Eastern portion, at present, has rather a muddy appearance, the result of heavy showers which have had the good effect of filling up the tanks.

*Labour:* Coolies now think twice about going to Estates as there is plenty work for them in the low country. The rates of pay have come down and the women are only earning as much as annas 4 per day, harvesting paddy. The higher rates of pay on the Estates do not appear to attract them for 2 reasons:—(a) The Estate Climate. (b) In the low country, the hours of work are short, the coolies not turning out until 10 a. m. at the earliest and in many places not until between 11 a. m. and noon.

The ground-nut industry in Pollachi has attracted many coolies, the coolies coming into Pollachi taluk and town (where the ground-nut factories work day and night) from the surrounding taluks, from as far away as Palni. The Harvesting of the Ground-nut in Salem-Namakal side is only just starting, the crop there also promises to be a good one. The rates of pay connected with the ground-nut industry are higher than some of the others, the reason being that the coolies are expected to work longer hours; especially in the harvest field.

*Crops:* In some places in the Tamil District, gram is being sown in fields which have not been cultivated before owing to the lack of rain.

Cumbu, this crop is ready for harvesting, the Ryots of Salem-Namakal are now complaining about the rain, saying that it will spoil the harvest for this crop.

Paddy, is now being planted out owing to the recent rains. Before the rains came it was impossible in many places to cultivate the paddy lands, owing to the wells for irrigation running dry.

Cattle and Sheep, the condition of these has improved, there being more fodder available.

#### *Price of Grains:*

#### Pollachi Shandy Prices :—

Chollam per bag of 53 Madras Measures	Rs. 9—0—0
Ragi                   ...       ...       ...       ...	Rs. 8—0—0
Doll                   ...       ...       ...       ...	Rs. 17—0—0
Horse Gram               ...       ...       ...	Rs. 11—8—0
Payaroo           ...       ...       ...       ...	Rs. 16—0—0
Black Gram           ...       ...       ...	Rs. 15—0—0

I regret to be unable to quote the price of rice owing to lack of confirmation of reports received.

*Health:* Good on the whole in the Tamil District, though plague has broken out on Salem side, but at present it has not spread to any great extent.

J. H. BENNET,  
Superintendent,



### AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CAMEROONS.

The current number of the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" contains an informative article dealing with recent developments in agriculture in that part of the former German Colony of the Cameroons which is now being administered under the mandate by Great Britain. The article, which is written by Mr. F. Evans, the Government Supervisor of Plantations in the Cameroons, is of particular interest in view of the sale of the ex-enemy estates in that Province recently conducted in London by Messrs. Hampton and Sons.

The German authorities, up to 1914, conducted numerous experiments, both at the Government Experiment Stations and on private estates, with a view to improving the output and quality of the staple products, such as cocoa, rubber, palm oil and various food crops, whilst new crops which seemed likely to succeed in the country were introduced. Marked results were obtained with cocoa, the Cameroons product now being of good grade and taking a high place in the world's markets. This experimental work is being continued so far as the limited staff of the present Agricultural Department admits.

Under the German regime European occupation of land for planting purposes was encouraged and the Government undertook to supply and control all labour both for public works and private enterprise. This resulted in the rapid creation of a sound agricultural industry and the development of large tracts of forest land. Since the British occupation a system of Voluntary labour has been initiated and has proved satisfactory, whilst for future development Mr. Evans considers there should be no difficulty in obtaining labour at reasonable rates from the thickly populated districts of the adjoining protectorate of Nigeria. He points out that the soil in the Cameroons is very fertile, the rainfall is well distributed, whilst transport and shipping facilities are good. In addition to the crops now cultivated there are large tracts suitable for tobacco, sugar, bananas, and coconuts, and tea should thrive in the hills. The conditions of life generally are unrivalled in West Africa, and the country offers excellent opportunities to men of initiative, who have sufficient capital to engage in tropical agriculture.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents.)*

Terramia Estate,  
Kullakamby, Nilgiris  
7th November 1922.

Dear Sir,

#### *Personal Membership of the U. P. A. S. I.*

In Suggesting increased Personal Membership of the U. P. A. S. I. my reasons were that, at present, the minority of a District Planters' Association has no appeal whatever and this to my knowledge has caused a lot of dis-satisfaction,

If the District Association majority decide that a certain resolution is to be brought forward at the U. P. A. S. I. meeting, or is *not* to be brought forward, the minority views are unheard, and possibly what was turned down by one Association might be approved by others, if a chance was given for it to be brought forward at Bangalore.

It has been argued that to allow extra Personal membership would make the Annual Meeting unwieldy, but if a man is so keen as to pay for personal Membership and his own expenses to Bangalore, then that man should certainly be heard. Turned down by his own Association, he might feel he had a grouse but if allowed to represent his views in Bangalore, he would certainly feel, if turned down again, that it was not local or personal prejudice.

I think the proposal made by the Rubber member that personal membership be extended to:

"Every Planter or retired Planter who has an interest either as  
"Manager or Shareholder in an Estate subscribing to the  
"U. P. A. S. I. and who is not a member of a Trading Firm"  
would most certainly mean more interest in the U. P. A. S. I. itself.

Yours faithfully,

A. S. DANDISON.

Cowcoody, Somwarpet,

N. Coorg, November 3, 1922.

Dear Sir,

Though I still cannot afford to subscribe to help rich and powerful firms with their labour, I trust you will insert this suggestion which is of interest to all, especially to coffee planters. I mean the forthcoming British Empire Exhibition. Though it is not till 1924, sites etc., are already being arranged for. For coffee planters it is the chance of their lives, as their chief rivals, Brazil and Costa Rica, will be eliminated. For once statistics have been of some use. They show that while the home consumption of coffee remains the same, Costa Rica is 1,200 tons more and East Indian 1,200 tons less, and this in spite of our preferential duty. Why? Advertising, and nothing else. We should at least secure a coffee stall in the Indian Section, where coffee is publicly roasted and ground, and a large cup provided with a biscuit or roll at say 2d. Coffee should also be sold in tons at say 2 shillings a pound, with a bright and attractive label, girls-picking or portraits of prominent members of the U. P. A. etc. This might largely be made self supporting, or a firm of merchants might take it up if provided with coffee at cost price. But the essence of the scheme would be a pamphlet, describing East Indian coffee where to get it and how to prepare it. The coffee stall attendants would hand one of these to every passer by. One million of these would cost probably £ 10,000 to print. Whatever happens, the scheme must not be combined with any other product as our unfortunate



experience at the St. Louis Exhibition proves. A number of prominent retired coffee planters are in England at present besides those who might be at home on leave, and they might all take an interest. As regards cost, first Rs. 1/- an acre or even 1/- per cwt. would be money well spent. Then the Coorg and Mysore Governments especially, derive large revenues, directly and indirectly, from coffee and so do West Coast Firms and brokers etc., at home. All these parasites of coffee (and I use the word in no offensive sense) should show that they appreciate their position. The U. P. A. itself might disprove the idea that it "cares for none of these things" and is absorbed in burbling about World Labour conventions and the stupid intricacies of Indian Politics. Give the great B. P. a cup of the best coffee (or tea or cocoa in their respective spheres) and then show it how to do it for itself, that is at any rate something practical.

Yours faithfully,  
L. NEWCOME.

Kulhatty Estate  
Santaveri,  
Birur, M. & S. M. Railway.  
4th November 1922.

DEAR SIR,

### "KENT'S" ARABICA

Some months ago when I wrote about "Kent's" Arabica, I promised to publish a copy of valuation on this coffee. I now send copies of two valuation reports which I think will be interesting to all who are trying "Kent's" Arabica.

Yours faithfully,  
(Sd.): SAM J. WILSON.

#### "A"

RAW :—Unsized hard Chick Mysore character, very coated with brown skin and a decided tinge of foxiness. Value 105s/- 110 s/- per cwt.

We think the coffe is very good but would be greatly improved with more of the silver skin removed.

ROAST :—Good, fair bright and even, rather mottled.

LIQUOR :—Good, full smooth, but with a suggestion of Central American.

(Sd.) T. H. ALLEN, & Co.,

#### "B"

Bold hard bluish, rather well made, very foxy and coated. Value (uncertain) 105s/- 110s/- per cwt..

Fine liquor, but roast similar to unwashed coffee.

Owing to the latter, it would in our opinion be quite unsuitable for blending purposes and would be used only as fine grinding coffee. If this difficulty could be over come, the coffee would rank with the finest Indian selling today, and its value enhanced accordingly to say 140s. to 150s.

(Sd.) T. H. ALLEN, & Co.,

Fair View, Oaklands Avenue,  
Droitwich,  
18th October 1922.

MY DEAR WADDINGTON,

Will you tell the U. P. A. S. I. that I much appreciated the hearty vote of thanks they recorded to the members of the Labour Commission.

I enjoyed my work and learnt much on my tour. Our thanks are due to all those who in welcoming us, and so honestly replying to many questions put to them : enabled us to place in your records a report, which anyhow, represented the views or opinions of the majority of our brother Planters.

On our arrival we stayed ten days in dear old noisy London. I visited the factory of one, if not the largest Tea Packing Companies in England and elsewhere, and was shown all over their works, (and samples of the Teas purchased) by the Chairman of the Company. I was more than interested. Among the Tea samples I saw and tasted, were many from South Indian Estates, none of them showed signs of coarse plucking, in the majority of cases the sifting left little to be desired. In only one instance, did I see a grade that was wrongly named. Planters gain nothing by calling a B. P. Souchong a Broken Pekoe or an obvious B. Pekoe a B. O. Pekoe. I saw very few clean whole leaf teas, these are valuable now for export trade, but in the hands of the Packet trade Merchant they all go into the mill to be cut down again. I must congratulate the firm I visited on the careful selection of tea, they had purchased. The buyers of these packet teas are getting a first class article for their money. There was not a bad lot in the whole collection I saw. In style of ordinary black leaf teas and sifting, South Indian Teas compare favourably with teas from both Ceylon and N. India. Although in liquor they did not compare as favourably, except in one or two instances, but this was no doubt due to the unfavourable climatic conditions ruling in most S. Indian Districts at the time those teas were manufactured.

I also visited a large tea brokers office and saw samples of S. Indian teas being tasted. I hope to attend one of the Mincing Lane sales in November, when there should be good classes of S. Indian Teas for sale, and at the same time I hope to have more time on my hands to study tea matters. At present I am of opinion that without estates can produce in appearance a tea with stand out style and tip they should give greater attention to liquor and colour of infused leaf. I would have liked to have given the name of the "Tea Packing Firm" I was allowed to visit, but I feel by so doing you might lose interest in what I have written looking at it as a possible advertising medium.

If you care to put in any part of this letter in the "P. C." do so. I hope the present satisfactory position of the Tea Market will not induce S. Indian Estates to revert to coarse plucking.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sd.) J. S. NICOLLS.



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 24TH NOVEMBER 1922.

112s./- PER CWT. MARKET VERY QUIET

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is with great regret we have to inform our readers that Mr. Waddington is still laid up, but he is making good progress, and it is hoped he will soon be Convalescent. His duties are being carried out by Major. Brock, Director of the Labour Department, who returned from a long tour in the Srivilliputtur and Palamcottah Labour Divisions on the 18th instant. The Director attended the meeting of the Executive committee held in Madras on the 20th returning to Coimbatore the next day. He has had to abandon his tour in the Mangalore division which was to have commenced next week.

It is feared that Sir Fairless Barber's suggestion that a trial match be played at Coimbatore, prior to the Planters' vs. Presidency Match, for the purpose of selecting a team for the latter, will fall through. The difficulty lies in getting players to come for the trial match with the uncertainty as to whether they have to obtain leave to cover the period of both matches or not.

*S. I. P.  
Cricket Club.*

We learn that the Executive Committee have decided to adopt, the suggestion of the Central Travancore Planters' Association to hold this tournament at one place and at one time. They have suggested that the tournament be held at Bangalore during the month of March next.

*Inter District  
Tennis.  
Tournament.*





































It is hoped that this proposal will meet with general approval, and that those districts, which have not entered for the tournament during the past two years, will now compete.

The Executive Committee have gratefully accepted the Nilgiris Planters' Association's offer to present a cup for an Inter District Golf Tournament, and propose that this Tournament be held at Bangalore at the same time as the Tennis Tournament. The Donors have been asked to

draw up conditions and Rules for the matches, and these will be published as soon as they are received.

We publish in this issue an extract from a lecture given by Mr. H. C. Pinching, Senior Scientist, R. G. A., on the Economic Planting of Rubber, in which he gives his views on "Thinning Out." Appropo of this we extract the following gem from the October number of "*The Planter*".

### 1952.

The other day, having an hour to pass before my train was due, I strolled into the Charing Cross Hotel for a drink. "Halloa, Jones !".

I looked up and found an old friend of my planting days. When we had found the waiter who knows how to make gin-slings we settled down for a quiet chat.

"When are you due back?" I asked in the course of our conversation.

"Month after next," he replied.

"Then your six months is nearly up?"

"Six months! Why I've just had six years on full pay. You are behind the times. But of course I forgot. You retired after the Arghan Fibre boom of '25. In those days you went in for alternate daily tapping and other murderous games. You see now we tap 2,556 times round the tree on the last day of every 7th year."

"But how do you manage to keep your labour-force for all that time with nothing to do?"

"Why, we only have one cooly and there is plenty to do. The factory is built in a circle round the Estate and the latex flows through rubber pipes into the coagulating tank. This tank is fixed on a railway truck and there are sidings connecting up with the main line. It is then run on to a train ferry at Port Swettenham."

"But how long does it take your one tapper to tap 2,556 or whatever it is times round all the trees?" I thought he would die with laughter.

"All the trees! There is only one tree on the Estate. You see we've finished thinning out."



## NEW PAVING EXPERIMENT.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXTRACT FROM THE LONDON LETTER OF THE  
"PLANTER".

At length a new attempt is being made to try rubber paving in the streets of London, the experimenter being Mr. E. F. Spurrell, the Borough Surveyor of Holborn, who undoubtedly seems to realise the responsibilities which rest on any public official nowadays in connection with road surfaces. He is evidently not inclined, as many surveyors are, to continue with the stereotyped forms of roadmaking if he can find better, and therefore whatever happens in this particular experiment he is conducting, he ought at least to have the credit of being an up-to-date innovator.

Apparently his idea was first of all to pave with India-rubber a section of Holborn itself, but this was a costly proceeding and the Ministry of Transport, to whom he referred, did not feel itself able, if he selected this thoroughfare, to guarantee necessary assistance. Their point of view obviously was, and is, one of considerable doubt as to whether India-rubber paving in any form will answer the purpose of carrying very heavy traffic. Accordingly Mr. Spurrell has fallen back upon a section of St. Martin's Lane and there the blocks will be laid. The paving will be on quite a different system from anything hitherto in existence. In Southwark, where there is a section of rubber paving, it will be remembered that the India-rubber cap is attached to a sort of steel frame with prongs which are fastened in concrete. For the Borough of Holborn Mr. Spurrell has had specially manufactured at Birmingham a sort of India-rubber cap, about one inch deep from the top to the bottom, and with a quarter of an inch solid top depth. The interior of these oblong caps fits with two projecting rubber wedges direct on to concrete and in its finished form is of exactly the same size as the five-inch wooden blocks which are now laid down in all the London Streets where there is this form of paving. There are of course two points: (1) whether the traffic will pull the cap off the concrete, since no one can quite say whether rubber adhere permanently to concrete, and (2) how to fill up the interstices between the blocks. Mr. Spurrell proposes to run liquid concrete through these gaps with the result that there will be a very thin sheath of concrete between these blocks, attaching itself to the concrete below, and thus helping to keep the whole in position. There does not seem any chance whatever that the India-rubber will wear through. The only risks which are being faced with perfect candour, lie in the two directions above. The work will probably commence in about a month's time, and if we have a normal winter, it should be possible within six months to say whether the experiment is a success. If it is not, no great harm has been done, but if it is, then I think that there may be some developements, because obviously any paving which has five years more to its life than wood will be preferred, despite some increase in price. On the other hand,

most people are unaware that ordinary wood paving, if well laid, should last twelve to fifteen years without renewal, and therefore this rubber paving has to last for twenty. As I have already indicated, this is a private experiment, since the rubber caps are not manufactured for public use, though there is no patent in them, and they seem simplicity themselves.

### THINNING OUT OLD RUBBER.

The following is an extract from a lecture by Mr. H. C. Pinching (Senior Scientific Officer of the R. G. A) on the subject of the GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMIC PLANTING.

I have been particularly requested to introduce some remarks into my lecture this evening on the questions of thinning out, its economic value, and the selection of good yielding trees. I think we will all agree that the planting up of a larger number of trees per acre than the acre can sustain properly when the trees have reached say ten years of age is a financially sound policy. The first and foremost argument at the present time in favour of planting more trees than we subsequently require and then thinning out, must be that we cannot guarantee the latex yielding powers of any young rubber seedling or stump we may plant out in a field. Thus by planting more trees than we really require—or rather than the soil can support when the trees are say, ten years old, we have the opportunity of selecting the really required number of trees all the best yielders present and of moving the unrequired poor yielders. Most of us have had some chance of appreciating for ourselves the variation which exists in the latex yielding powers of the trees existing on an ordinarily planted acre of land. We always find that a certain percentage of the trees consist of poor yielders, some of which hardly pay for being tapped, especially at the present price of rubber. Thus unless we plant a greater number of trees per acre than we really require we shall be unable to remove these poor yielders, for, if we do, then our land is not being fully occupied.

Even if we could have an assurance that every tree with which we planted up a new area would become a high class yielder, would it then be advisable to plant up more trees than we really required and so have to thin out? I think the answer is still in the affirmative. Not only have we to consider the possibility of loss or the spoiling of the tree by disease and the risk of breakage or damage by storm or wind, but we have to bear in mind that we must always make the most out of the soil at our disposal. Thus supposing we require an untillate stand of say 60 trees per acre—should we just plant up those sixty trees only at the outset? Such a proposal, in my opinion, would be a very wasteful, and also a very expensive one. The object of the rubber planter must be to accomodate his trees as they grow. As the trees demand more subterranean and more aerial space for expansion then he must see that this demand is fulfilled. One does not place the food requirements of a hearty man before a child of two on



the grounds that the child when he grows up will require such an amount of food, neither does one equip a body of five with men's clothes and boots, because the boy, if he lives, will eventually require such.

Planting up a larger number of trees than will be eventually required is, in my opinion, economically sound, both with ordinary planted areas as well as with those areas planted up with trees for which one may have some guarantee that they will develop into high latex yielders. The yields from those trees eventually removed in thinning out will compensate for the cost of their planting and ultimate removal, while the matter of the earlier shading of the ground by the greater number of trees per acre and the saving on the weeding expenses, where weeding is carried out, will be advantages acknowledged by all.

Taking fields of ordinarily planted Hevea as they exist today in the East, the basis for the selection of trees for thinning out must depend upon the revenue value of each tree *i. e.*, its latex yielding power. Only on such a basis can the greatest return be obtained from an acre of land. Since the rubber content of the latices from different trees varies to a considerable extent, in some cases the rubber content of the latex from one tree being less than half of that of the latex from another tree it will be obvious that, strictly speaking, the volumetric latex yield of a tree is not a correct indication of the tree's revenue value as compared with another tree, and that it is a necessary, in order to make a correct comparison, to find the actual dry rubber yield. Though the finding of the actual dry rubber yield of each tree is not a very difficult task and is quite within the scope of the planter, yet on account of the extra time and attention necessary in carrying this work out, as compared with merely recording the volumetric yields, I have often been asked whether this latter method is not sufficient for ordinary estate purposes. In my opinion the answer to such a question is both yes and no, depending upon the condition of the estate under consideration. In the case of an ordinary planted estate where no thinning out (or no thinning out on the yield basis for selection) has already been carried out then it is sufficient, in my opinion, to select trees for removal on the volumetric yield basis only. The slight errors which will enter through the usage of these volumetric records will be so slight as to be negligible from a practical standpoint. Let us consider such an estate for a moment. I have already stated that there is a considerable variation in the yields of individual trees on such an estate and thus there will be a certain percentage of the trees yielding say less than a quarter of a cup of latex. Thinning out, when carried out at the proper time rarely necessitates the removal of more than 15-20 trees per acre. It will be no trouble in most unthinned fields to find 20 trees per acre which yield a very little latex—say enough to cover the bottom of the cup. If, for example, one of these trees which was yielding so poorly gave latex of a very high rubber content, say more than

twice that of the latex from a neighbouring tree which gave  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup, the loss admitted by removing the low volume but high rubber content yielding tree in thinning out, and the reserving of the higher volume but low rubber content yielding tree would be very slight. In my opinion it is in the later stages of thinning out when all the four and five drops of latex yielding trees have been removed, and the remaining trees all yield large volumes of latex that the question of the rubber content of the latex will become of importance. I do not want you to think for a moment that I am against the recording of the actual rubber yields of individual trees, but having preached yields recording for estates for some years with but comparatively little response from the managements, some of whom look upon it as a high flown impracticable idea of a scientist, I should be only too pleased to see estates tackle the easier, though slightly less accurate, method rather than confront them with the more tedious but correct one. I fully appreciate that European staffs on estates are now working very short handed and with the present depressed state of the rubber market every thought has to be expended on the curtailing of expenditure. Of course in old rubber the yield recording is of less importance except as a means for indicating suitable mother trees for "budding" work. This brings us to the question of late thinning out in old rubber, no matter whether the basis used for the selection of trees to be removed is the individual yields or the spacing of the trees, is not financially sound. Consider for a moment thinning out in old rubber with the selection of trees for removal based on the spacing of the trees. Such a thinning out may remove some of the best yielders and then, further, will the remaining trees respond to the improved environmental conditions? The yields of the remaining trees will not materially increase, for generally speaking the majority of the trees will have reached (and perhaps passed) their normal maximum yielding period. Anyway, any slight increases per tree which may be experienced will be more than negatived by the loss of the yields from the removed trees.

Let us turn to thinning out in old rubber on the yield basis. It is possible in a field of unthinned old rubber that certain trees yield so poorly that they do not pay to be tapped. Thus if such were removed a tapper could tap a larger area, bring in a larger amount of latex and thus a reduction in the tapping cost per lb. of rubber would be obtained. Still if these very poor yielding trees were merely taken out of the tapping round and the tapping tasks readjusted accordingly, the result would be the same. Of course, there is the possibility of the remaining trees responding slightly to the somewhat improved environmental conditions brought about by removing such poor yielders, but would the response, measured in extra crop, increased girth or growth or increased rate of bark renewal compensate for the outlay necessitated in the thinning out? Further as I have already stated, only a comparatively few trees would be placed under improved environmental conditions by the thinning out and personally I do not think the game would be worth the candle. With reference to



the suggestion of merely selective tapping and not thinning out in old unthinned rubber I have personally been able to reduce my tapping costs from 10 cents to 8 cents per lb with a reduction of yield per acre of under 50 lbs per annum in old unthinned fields. The trees stood about 100 to the acre and about 20 poor yielders per acre were taken out of tapping and the tasks re-arranged. In the event of the price of rubber justifying the work, the trees now out of action could be tapped again.

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### COORG PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings of a General Meeting held at the Bamboo Club, Pollibetta, on Monday the 13th November 1922. at 3.30 P. M.

*Present.* Messrs G. R. Pearse, H. T. Shaw, C. G. Maclean, W. A. F. Bracken, A. E. J. Nicolls, M. B. Pollard-Urquhart, N. M. Schofield, F. Macrae, P. G. Tipping (President) & W. Egerton (Hon. Sec).

Notice calling the meeting was read.

Proceedings of the last General Meeting were read & confirmed.

#### *Report of the Delegates to the U. P. A. S. I. General Meeting:—*

The Meeting to day is, amongst other items, to receive the report of the Delegates to the U. P. A. S. I. meeting held at Bangalore on August 21st to 26th. A copy of the proceedings has been circulated to all the Members and it is unnecessary to remark at length on the various questions which were brought at that Meeting and we strongly recommend those who have not done so to read the book carefully.

Taking the items on the Agenda upon which we were instructed, the first was *the re-organization of the U. P. A. S. I.* Our instructions were to vote against any possibility of increased subscription, which we did. We should like however to remark, that although the C.P.A. objects to any increase, the feeling in Coorg is divided, a very large acreage being willing to pay an increased subscription. It was pointed out, at Bangalore, that the commission appointed to enquire into the working of the U. P. A. S. I. had recommended an increase in all subscriptions and it must be borne in mind that these 3 Members of the commission went most thoroughly into and examined every detail of the working of the U. P. A. S. I., and one of the conclusions arrived at was that more money was required. The Mundakayam People put up a scheme and also Mr. Congreve, the main item of interest to us being the proposed increase to Re. 1-8-0 per acre. Every Delegate, except yours, was in favour of this and some Associations were willing to pay even more. We voted against it. By the increased subscription it is thought and hoped that the U. P. A. S. I. will be

made more efficient. If the subscription is eventually raised it is hoped that all Members will continue to belong. It must be remembered that adverse Political conditions, as a Delegate stated, may have a far reaching effect on us even more so than adverse Agricultural ones and that the U. P. A. S. I. is in a position to do more for us than any other Organization.

The proposal which several Delegates objected to, amongst whom were your Delegates, was the suggestion put forward that debt collecting and serving of warrants should be abolished as they cost a great deal of time and money to the hinderance of more important work; the idea being that the Labour Department should be made more efficient and Maistries and Labour become so satisfactory, that this debt collecting would not be necessary. Mr. Tipping moved an amendment that the collection of debts should be maintained for the present until such time as Labour is under better control, but a resolution was passed leaving the question to the Executive Committee to devise some scheme of reducing the work of the Labour Department in this direction as much as possible and that debts of less than 5 rupees should not be taken up by the Labour Department was one of the suggestions put forward.

*Benevolent Fund.* It was decided that this should be registered as an incorporated Society, otherwise, should by any chance the U. P. A. S. I. go into liquidation the money at the credit of the B. Fund can, as the Fund stands at present, be used to pay the U. P. A. S. I. debts. Messrs Murphy and Mackie offered to share the cost of incorporation which was very sporting of these Generous supporters of this Fund.

*Roads.* Mr. Tipping moved a resolution 'that the matter of improvement in the main road outlets of Planting Districts to Sea-ports and Railheads be pressed upon and kept before the Governments concerned'. This resolution refers particularly to the strengthening of Bridges and Culverts'. The resolution was passed.

*Railway.* In the face of the Resident's and Col. Bernardiston's speeches, these it seemed futile to bring up our Railway Hardy Annual.

*Labour Rules.* We were instructed to protest against any area in Mysore, to which we have been accustomed to recruit, being closed to Coorg. This was brought up in open Meeting but your Delegates met the Mysore people and discussed the subject, Mularabad, Kadur and Belur Taluks where the ones chiefly objected to by Mysore, but we strongly protested against any area whatsoever being closed. Mysore was very willing to meet us in this matter so long as active recruiting did not take place within their Planting Districts and which is we think quite reasonable.

In conclusion we have to thank you for having done us the honour of electing us to represent this Association. The meeting



was well attended and it is encouraging to see more and more Visitors attending and taking an interest in the proceedings and we think that a lot of useful discussion took place and much useful work was done.

The Delegates then answered several questions put to them, there was considerable discussion over the proposed increase of subscriptions to the U. P. A. S. I.

Mr. Shaw drew attention to the large size of the Mayo Hall in which the Meeting was held and expressed the opinion, which is also voiced by others that visitors found it very difficult to hear the majority of the speeches and discussions.

The Delegates were thanked for the Report and the work they had undertaken.

*Rates.*—Cart, plant baskets, straw, sawyers and artizans pay was discussed, the Honorary Secretary being instructed to send a circular to all Planters in Coorg stating that the rates which the Meeting considered fair with a view to combining to keep down the exorbitant rates asked for by contractors and others. Mr. Tipping mentioned that he found buying straw by weight to be more satisfactory and economical than buying it by the bundle.

*Coffee Experimental Station.*—Several members drew attention to the experiments and the work carried on at this Station and were of the opinion that these could be improved upon especially from a more practical point of view. A Committee consisting of Messrs. Tipping, Bracken, Shaw and Egerton was appointed to give their opinions upon the Station with a view to ascertaining if the experiments at present carried on could not be improved on and if so to make suggestions, these to be submitted to other coffee districts to obtain their views and suggestions.

*Benevolent Fund.* Mr. Tipping again reminded the Meeting of the excellent work done by this Fund and expressed the wish that he should like to see all members subscribing to it as was done in some planting districts.

*Roads.*—It was resolved to draw the attention of the Executive Engineer to a certain amount of bad work done in repairs by contractors on the Ammutty—Tittimuttv road and the bad condition of a small part of the Kutta Gonicopal road as well as the whole length of the Pollibetta-Sidapur road.

*Correspondence.* Letters were read with reference to Coast cart rates, British Empire Exhibition, Pollibetta Circuit House and Breach of Contract cases.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the Meeting terminated.

P. G. TIPPING.

Chairman,

W. EGERTON.

Hon: Secretary,

## KAPOK OR TREE COTTON.

W. Molegode.

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There is this year an unprecedented demand for and a ready sale of Kapok or Pillow Cotton, as it is commonly called. Within less than 30 days the price rose from Rs. 8-0-0 to Rs. 18-0-0 per cwt. of unclean Kapok and has since risen to much higher rates. The reason for this sudden demand has still to be explained as even very dirty stuff and half-matured pods sold for good prices. It is of course well-known that Kapok is extensively used for upholstering purposes and takes a prominent part in the manufacture of non-conducting felts and in the construction of life-belts, buoys, etc. The present demand, it is stated, is due to the larger employment of Kapok for textile purposes. Whatever the uses to which it is put may be there are signs that the demand will continue and therefore the question arises if the extensive cultivation of this crop is not practicable. Hitherto Kapok has only been grown as a fence trees. It is largely grown along fences in North Matale, Hanguranketa way and here in Kandy it is a common tree, attracting the attention of the people only when pods ripen and begin to burst. The current demand has given an impetus and already during this monsoon many people are planting out cuttings. The cultivation of Kapok requires but little labour and capital. It is easily propagated either by seed or stumps. It is quick growing and fast yielding. Raised from seed the tree will begin to give a fair crop of pods in about 3 years. If large cuttings from already bearing trees are planted generally a crop can be obtained in about a year. Kapok is one of the earliest crops to grow and can be profitably cultivated on land unsuitable for more paying products. Practically no cultivation is necessary. If seeds are planted sow a few on a hill prepared by digging out the earth and making it loose. When plants are well established and are about a foot high remove all but the sturdiest plants. Seed may be sown in nurseries and planted out in holes prepared for the purpose. If stumps are planted a fairly deep hole say about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep is made with an *Alavango*. Insert the stump into this and press the soil around. Planting should be at a distance of 15-20 feet apart. Very little attention and care is necessary when stumps begin to shoot out or seedlings are planted, once they get established.

*Tropical Agriculturist.*



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LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

## MANGALORE DIVISION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1922.

*Weather.*—Weather has been very close, and sultry during the month of October, and the early part of November with occasional heavy thunder showers.

*Crops.*—The second rice crop appears to be excellent all over the District.

*Cocoanut disease.*—Is on the decrease.

*Price of Grain.*—Rice is now at Rs. 7/4 to 7/10 per murah of 84 lbs.

*Labour.*—All labour is now on the estates, and our work here is confined to hurrying up laggards, and assisting in the execution of warrants.

*Health.*—Is on the whole good though the sultry weather experienced has been responsible for a certain amount of sickness.

F. W. WINTERBOTHAM,

*Superintendent.*

## PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1922.

Rain fall was plentiful during the latter half of the month and sufficient for agricultural purposes. Late paddy crops in the Tenkasy Taluk were damaged by the rain, causing considerable loss. Ploughing and planting of the next paddy crop is rapidly progressing and the demand for labour in the low country is greater than the supply. Planting and ploughing will be completed by the end of November throughout the District and December and January will be favourable recruiting months.

Kanganies should make every effort to induce their labuor to leave the low country before the end of January as the demand for labour in the low country will increase from February to May when good wages can be earned.

*Advancing Season* :—Now that the advancing season is drawing near I take this opportunity of advising superintendents not to pay Kanganies way expenses for their coolies along with the advance. Way expenses can be paid through the department, coolies being entrained, tickets purchased etc. My reason for emphasising this point is due to the fact that so many kanganies utilize their way expenses money in one way or another and when the time comes to leave for the estate and coolies are ready, the kanganies waste their time in trying to get way expenses from me and the delay thus incurred has been the cause of much loss of labour.

A. G. A. DUNNING

*Superintendent.*





# The Planters' Chronicle.

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(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 1 ST DECEMBER 1922.

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET WEAK.

### UNITED SERVICE CLUB, BANGALORE.

We learn that an extraordinary General Meeting of the United Service Club, Bangalore, is to be held on the 19th December, to do away entirely with non-resident members of that Club.

There are many planters in Coorg, Mysore and elsewhere who are non-resident members. If this new rule is passed, they will all automatically cease to be members of the Club, and will have to be re-elected every time they go to Bangalore, but, if re-elected, they will not have to pay fresh entrance fee.

All Planters who are members should take up the matter at once, and if unable to attend the meeting, should send in proxies to veto the proposal, or amend it to make it optional as to whether they remain non-resident members or not.

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**THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.****NOTICE FROM PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION.**

K. Chokalingam Pillay son of Kolasegaram Pillay, Big Bazaar South Car Street, Palamcottah, late Tinnevely Agent, dismissed from the Department.

Agent's Successor Nambi Shervai son of Malathangi Shervai, c/o U. P. A. S. I. Office, Palamcottah.

(Sd) A. G. A. DUNNING,  
Superintendent.

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**Which Estate in South India has the Highest Yielding Rubber Tree ?**

That Hevea trees differ enormously in yielding capacity has long been known. It is now established that the yielding qualities are to a large extent correlated with anatomical structure. High yielders are characterised by the possession of many rows of latex vessels; low yielders by the possession of few rows.

Since other factors, such as the viscosity of the latex, relative not development, complications set up by former tapping system etc. also influence the flow from a tree, the correlation between number of rows of latex tubes and yield is not always strictly proportional. It is sometimes found, for instance, that a tree with forty rows, yields as much latex as a tree with an equipment of fifty rows of latex tubes. Still, the relation is good enough for practical utilisation on estates. Where trees of nearly equal yielding value have to be differentiated between however it is advisable to supplement the classification based on bark examination by actual yield measurements, in the field, but where, as in thinning out, or for purposes of selective tapping, the object is to pick out the low yielders only, few difficulties will arise.

**IMPORTANCE OF SUPPLEMENTING YIELD MEASUREMENTS BY BARK EXAMINATIONS.**

As an adjunct to field observations in the selection of first class yielders for purposes of vegetative propagation, bark tests are of especial value and may be considered indispensable. In the "Planters' Chronicle" of recent date, Planters who contemplated taking up the budding of Hevea were invited to send bark samples from all their chosen trees to the Mycological Station, where a classification according to equipment of latex tubes will be made. The advisability of submitting samples of bark from all prospective parents to anatomical analysis before the final decision is made, is given added importance by a recent statement of Dr. Vischer, who has done a



considerable amount of work on budded trees on Java. In one of his experiments, two trees, both equally high yielders, but one of which was distinguished by the possession of many more latex tubes than the other, were chosen as bud parents. Yield tests upon the budded offspring derived from these two trees have recently been made. In these tests the vegetative offspring of the tree with the large equipment of latex tubes have given uniformly high yields. Further they have been demonstrated to possess a large number of rows of latex tubes, like their parent. The offspring of the second tree with a smaller outfit of latex tubes, on the other hand, exhibit very moderate yielding qualities, and are extremely variable. In them the development of latex vessels is also poor.

These results have an important bearing on the problem of budding. Not only do they demonstrate that the laticiferous tissue is the physical basis of yield. They show also, that this is the factor which tells any inheritance. Factors such as the possession of a superior root system, more foliage, better soil facilities etc, may enable a tree, but moderately endowed with latex tubes, to rival in yield a tree with a superior equipment. These factors are, however, accidental. They are not inherent hereditary characters, and are, therefore, not transmissible to their offspring.

It will be realized from the foregoing that in selecting the trees to be used as parents in the vegetative propagation of *Hevea*, the character to be sought above all others, is the possession of a high number of rows of latex tubes. In South India of course, insusceptibility to Secondary Leaf Fall is another important desideratum, but this will be understood.

It may perhaps stimulate the work of selecting high yielders, and add zest to the search, if a little healthy competition between estates can be raised by the publication of some of the results obtained, in the "Planters' Chronicle". The following table shows the relative number of latex tubes possessed by fifty selected good milkers from a Travancore Estate :—

## Estate X.

*Relative No. of Rows of Latex Tubes of Good Milkers.*

Tree No.	Rows of Latex Tubes.	Tree No.	Rows of Latex Tubes.
A	41	A a	22
B	30	B a	27
C	28	C a	36
D	43	D a	19
E	34	E a	17
F	44	F a	36
G	37	G a	23
H	41	H a	26
I	30	I a	31
J	35	J a	47
K	36	K a	23
L	17	L a	30
M	29	M a	27
N	22	N a	41
O	27	O a	27
P	29	P a	32
Q	23	Q a	34
R	24	R a	18
S	41	S a	18
T	28	T a	21
U	26	U a	20
V	42	V a	29
W	32	W a	26
X	24	X a	32
Y	30	Y a	33
A b	48	E b	26
B b	50	F b	34
C b	26		
D b	36		

While the number of rows of latex tubes displayed by some of the trees in the above table are fairly high, (the average on estates generally being about seventeen rows) they are neither of them of very exceptional merit, and a further search would undoubtedly reveal the existence of trees still better equipped. Trees possessing as many as 63, and in some cases, 74 rows of latex tubes have already been reported from estates in Mundakayam, and it is quite possible that if the search for super-milkers were taken up in earnest by estates some phenomenal yielders would be brought to light.

It would be interesting to see which estate can produce the highest yielder.



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### HOW TO SEND BARK SAMPLES.

Bark samples sent for examination to the Mycological Station should be taken from a uniform height of three feet from the ground. Samples of a quarter inch square are sufficient for the purpose, and they should always be cut cleanly out with the cambium. Samples are best immersed in 1% Acetic Acid, and sent in bottles. They can be bored and strung in serial order on a wire or pinned out on slips of wood, the numbers in all cases being clearly marked.

H. ASHPLANT  
Rubber Mycologist.

## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.

REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1922.

The Deputy Director was on tour from the 4th till the 30th in Cochin and Travancore and visited the rubber stations at Mooply and Tenmalai and the Tea Experiment Station at Peermade, in order to get in touch with the work that is being carried on there. The accounts of these stations were audited by the Head Clerk and inspected by me. Weekly Reports Nos. 30, 31, 32 and 33 were written for the Planters' Chronicle. These will be discontinued as from November.

2. Arrangements were made for the collection of material to carry out some more experiments on making Artificial Farm Yard Manure at Peermade, Mundakayam and Tenmalai Experiment Stations.

3. *Sidapur Experiment Station.* Although the rainfall only amounted to 3.15 inches, the weather was cloudy practically all month and the growth of weeds necessitated further attention. After the forking and manuring of last month, the coffee looks well and supply plants are establishing quite satisfactorily and growing well. Jackson's and Kent's plots were weeded during the month and Lithosperma shade regulated and plants over 2½ feet high were lopped. Other varieties in Plot 26 are coming up fairly well. Handling of Coffee was done in 13 acres and mulching of 2 year old supplies and weeding the early forked plots occupied the remainder of the month.

*Green Manure crops.* Cassia Hirsuta stubble cut last month has again flushed very well. Crotalaria semperflorens stubble in plot 26 dried up and was removed. Tephrosia candida is making good growth and stands 4-5 feet high. Desmodium rufescens is growing well, but has not yet seeded.

4. *Peermade Experiment Station.* Wet weather with occasional sunshine was experienced during the month, with a total rainfall of 16.23 inches. Helopeltis began to appear in China tea about the middle of the month and continued doing a fair amount of damage to the young flush.

Some supplying with *Tephrosia candida* was done in the Green Manure plots, but growth was poor. Dadap cuttings which were eaten by white ants were replaced, growth is slow.

Manuring of plots was completed early in the month. Prunings in plot 24 were buried in alternate lines, but in plots 19 and 20 were removed. One round of weeding was done. Bushes pruned in September have begun to flush well. Plucking was regularly done. Statement showing comparative yields of the different plots for 2 rounds of plucking is shown below. During the month only 9.01 acres were plucked.

	Green Leaf in lbs.	September.	October.
1st Plucking.	740	128.36	81.02
2nd Plucking.	976	125.54	108.32

5. *Rubber Experiment Station, Mooply.* A rainfall of 14.03 inches distributed over 20 days was recorded. Abnormal leaf-fall was lighter this year, on the whole, but on such trees where leaf-fall was heavy, die back is in evidence. 6 cases of Patch Canker and 2 cases of Pink Disease have been treated.

*Green Manures.* The *Tephrosia candida* lopped in September is putting forth a fresh flush. In the hollow portion of the Station where flood water lies occasionally, *Tephrosia* has gone out altogether and in some cases on neighbouring estates where heavy rain was experienced after lopping it has also died.

Indigofera is producing flowers and fruits. Two kinds of caterpillars attacking the crop have been noticed and identified as *dichomeres Ianthes*, a leaf folding caterpillar, and the Tobacco caterpillar *Prodenia Litura*. Small patches of the crop have also been lightly attacked by a supposed die back disease further examination of which is being made. Patches of *Indigofera* are being planted in flood portions where *Tephrosia* has gone out to see if it will thrive under these conditions.

Statement of tapping systems are given below:—

Plots.	Tapping System.	Yield of wet rubber per 100 trees per day in lbs.	Percentage of scrap in wet weight.	
			Oct.	Sep.
1 to 12	One third section daily ...	2.02	11.5	10.68
13	Do. ...	2.10	12.7	10.42
14	One third alternate day ...	3.16	12.1	9.92
14 (a)	Half section alternate day.	3.83	11.3	9.77
15	One third section daily ...	1.88	12.8	11.32
17-19	Do. ...	2.11	11.1	10.61

6. *Tenmalai Rubber Experiment Station.* Twenty five wet days with a fall of 27.53 inches were experienced during the month, mostly in the afternoon and evening which tended to disturb the evening tapping.



The bark eating caterpillar *Aetherastis Circulata* has again made its appearance in the first week of October, and is gradually spreading.

*Tephrosia candida* has now formed a fair cover and a small patch of *Indigofera* has flowered.

Statement of yields is as follows :—

Plots.	Tapping system.	Yield of wet rubber per 100 trees per day in lbs.		Percentage of scrap wet weight.	
		Oct.	Sep.	Oct.	Sep.
1 to 14	One third section daily	2.34	2.3	9.23	8.6
15 and 18	Half alternate days	5.08	4.55	6.89	6.9
16 and 19	One third section daily	3.11	„	7.20	5.8
17	One third alternate day	3.54	3.44	7.25	6.8
20	One third section daily	2.99	2.73	7.92	7.8
24 a.	Do. evening	2.60	2.77	7.35	8.8
24 b.	Do. morning	2.98	2.15	8.31	9.4
24 c.	Do. evening only	2.50	2.29	6.53	8.9

7. Two Bulletins "Notes on the Soil and Agricultural Meteorology by R. C. Wood, have been issued by the Madras Agricultural Department. These form a useful elementary basis on which to build up a more extensive knowledge of soil and plant growth. When it is remembered that the most successful planter is the man who produces most with the least expenditure (other things being equal) it is essential that the principles governing plant growth are known.

Notes on the soil deals with such subjects as (1) General Nature of the soil, (2) Method of formation of soil, (3) Physical qualities of soils, (4) Chemical qualities of soils, (5) Changes in the soil, (6) Kinds of soil and soil managements. Agricultural Meteorology deals with (1) Atmosphere composition and variation, (2) Weather and climate, (3) Climate of South India, and (4) Weather forecasting.

D. G. MUNRO,  
Offg. Deputy Director of Agriculture,  
Planting Districts.

## SHEVAROY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shevaroy Planters' Association held at the Victoria Rooms, Yercaud on the 9th November, 1922, at 1-30 p. m.

*Members Present.* Mrs. V. A. Lechler.

Messrs. Chas. Dickins, (Chairman),

„ W. I. A. Lechler, W. A. Rahm, W. Rahm, C. Rahm,

„ S. M. Hight, C. L. Hight, N. M. Hight, C. D. Ryle,

„ Rev. Fr. M. Capelle, and Mr. V. L. Travers Drapes,  
(Hon. Secretary).

*Visitor.* W. J. Cambell, Esq., (Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co.).

## AGENDA.

1. Notice calling the Meeting was read.
2. Read and confirmed Proceedings of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 9th August, 1922.
3. *U. P. A. S. I. Annual General Meeting.*

At the Chairman's request the Honorary Secretary proceeded with the Delegates Report as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You have all been provided with the copy of Book of Proceedings, in addition to which, your Delegates have supplimented a few notes under the different headings of interest in this District. We shall be glad to answer any questions that may be asked upon each subject as it is dealt with.

After reading the notes referred to, several questions were asked and satisfactorily answered by the Delegates, who received the unanimous thanks of the Meeting for representing this Association.

In continuation of the Report, a special appeal drawn up by the Delegates, was read to the Meeting, and received with applause.

Mr. C. D. Ryle then moved the following Resolution, seconded by Mr. S. M. Hight "That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Chairman and the Honorary Secretary for their trouble in making so strong an appeal for the good of the Association, and this appeal be printed and circulated to subscribers, as well as non-subscribers.

*Carried Unanimously.*

4. *Labour Commission Report.*

It was resolved that no further discussion on this subject was needed.

5. *Standardisation of Wages.*

Read Hon. Secretary's letter No. 87/22 dated 15-11-22 to the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. also reply from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. No. 5499 dated 18-10-22. The Hon. Secretary pointed out the need for this District being transferred to Schedule III stating that this had been recommended by the Committee at its Meeting held on the 28th September, 1922.

The Chairman then moved the following Resolution, which was carried.

"That the Hon. Secretary do apply for this District being transferred to Schedule III, on the lines of para. 2 of Mr. Waddington's letter dated the 18th October 1922".

Mr. S. M. Hight brought to the notice of the Meeting the disabilities suffered by Estates owing to the very high rates paid by the several Government Departments employing labour on Roads and



Forests etc. He thought that their attention should be drawn to the rates in existence, and that they should be asked to co-operate with a view to keeping in line with the prevailing rates of pay.

The following Resolution proposed by Mr. C. D. Ryle and seconded by Mr. V. L. Travers Drapes was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

"That the Honorary Secretary approach the Conservator of Forests and the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, in Salem District with a view to their co-operation with the Planters by not paying higher rates for labour employed by their Departments, than are prevalent in any part of the Shevaroy's which they may be working in".

The following further two Resolutions were placed before the Meeting.

Proposed by Mr. W. I. A. Lechler seconded by Mrs. V. A. Lechler.

"That in accordance with the U. P. A. S. I. Labour Rule II the undermentioned be asked to kindly serve on and constitute the S. P. A. standing Labour Committee.

- |         |    |                       |
|---------|----|-----------------------|
| Messrs. | 1. | C. D. Ryle            |
|         | 2. | W. Rahm               |
|         | 3. | H. S. Dickins         |
|         | 4. | V. L. Travers Drapes  |
|         | 5. | Rev. Fr. M. Capelle." |

Proposed by Mr. W. A. Rahm and seconded by Mr. C. D. Ryle.

"That the standing Labour Committee be asked to examine as soon as possible, with reference to the interests concerned, the question of framing District Rules especially with regard to the desirability of

1. Limiting wages
2. and advances and to make recommendations."

*Carried.*

#### 6. *Co-operative Societies.*

Read the following letters:—

From the Assist. Registrar No. R. C. 568/22 dated the 14th of August 1922.

Hon. Secretary's reply thereto No. 97/22 dated the 24th of October, 1922.

From the Assistant Registrar to the Hon. Secretary dated the 8th of November, 1922, regretting his inability to attend the Meeting and also an open letter dated 18-11-22 addressed to the Members of the Association, placing before them proposals for the spread of the Co-operative movement among the indigenous Labour of these Hills. In continuation therewith the following pamphlets were handed round,

1. Village Societies Hand Book
2. A short Introduction to Co-operation in the Madras Presidency.

It was decided that this subject be brought up for further discussion at the next Extraordinary General Meeting.

#### 7. *Anti-Hookworm Campaign.*

Mrs. V. A. Lechler gave an interesting account of how Anti Hookworm was tackled in Ceylon. Although it was recognised that compulsion was impossible, the Hospitals there as far as they could, treated everyone for Hookworm with most beneficent results. The treatment with Chenopodium was simple and cheap. An illustrated Pamphlet describing the different stages of the disease was passed round.

Mrs. Lechler was cordially thanked for her very interesting account.

Read and recorded the following letters:—

Hon. Secretary's letter No. 72/22 dated the 20th September, 1922 to the D. M. & S. O., Salem, and its reply from the D. M. & S. O. No 3516/22 dated 27-9-22, and No. 3516 dated 4-10-22 and the Honorary Secretary's reply thereto No. 96/22 dated the 24th of October, 1922.

It was resolved that this subject be brought up again upon receipt of further information.

#### 8. *British Empire Exhibition.*

Read and recorded the following letters:—

From the Collector of Salem to the Hon. Secretary dated the 4th of September, 1922.

The Hon. Secretary's letter No. 96/22, dated the 4th of September 1922, to the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. and the reply thereto from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. No. 4835 dated the 18th of September, 1922.

Hon. Secretary's letter No. 67/22 dated the 14th of September 1922, to the Collector of Salem, and its reply from the Collector of Salem, No. Nil dated 22-9-22.

It was resolved that this subject be brought up later on receipt of further information.

#### 9. *Income Tax Act.*

Read and recorded the following letters: and Circulars,

From the Deputy Thasildar to the Hon. Secretary No. U. R. 1803 dated the 15th August, 1922.

The Hon. Secretary's letter No. 75/22 dated the 20th of September, 1922, to the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. and its reply thereto from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. No. 4879 dated the 22nd September '22.

Hon. Secretary's letter No. 78/22 dated the 25th Sept. '22 to the Deputy Thasildar, Yercaud.

The Circulars from the Secretary U. P. A. S. I. dated 6th August 1922, 11th August, 1922, and 1st Nov. 1922.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the Meeting terminated.

CHAS. DICKINS,  
Chairman.

V. L. TRAVERS DRAPES,  
Hon. Secretary.



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WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDING OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE MEPPADI CLUB  
ON 15TH NOVEMBER 1922.

Present:—Messrs B. M. Behr, (Chairman.) J. E. Bisset, W. G. Craig, E. E. Eyre, H. R. Bowling, R. B. N. Swayne, B. Malcolm, H. J. C. Hammond, E. C. Steward, S. H. Powell, and R. W. M. Hay, (Hon. Secretary).

Confirmed proceedings of last Meeting.

*District Board.* Resolved that the matter of the representation of this Association on the District Board be brought before the U. P. A. S. I. and our Planting Member of Council.

*Correspondence.* Read the letter from the District Judge, Malabar stating that the Munsiff's Court will sit at Vayitri one month in January and one month in September.

*Magistrate Court at Vayitri.* The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Collector of Malabar and point out the serious inconvenience caused to the Members of this Association and their Labour Force by the closure of the Magistrate's Court at Vayitri and to ask for his assistance in having it re-opened.

*Delegates Expenses.* Proposed by Mr. E. E. Eyre, seconded by Mr. S. H. Powell and carried "that 12 annas a mile for each delegate, by road or to the nearest railway station; from there double first class fare; also Rs 15 per day Batta at Bangalore, and Rs. 10 per day at Ccimbatore."

*Inter-District Sports. Tennis.* Proposed by Mr. E. E. Eyre, seconded by Mr. B. M. Behr and carried "that the Association pay the expenses of Tennis representatives to Coimbatore for the final match of the Inter-District Tennis."

"Resolved that the choosing of the team to represent the District in the Inter-District Tennis be transferred from the committee appointed at the meeting of the Association held in April 6th 1922 to the committee of the Meppadi Club."

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Sd.) B. M. BEHR,  
Chairman.

(Sd.) R. W. M. HAY,  
Hon. Secretary.

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR.**

*(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of  
its correspondents).*

**ROADS IN MALABAR.**

Sir,

In the Planter's Chronicle received last week I noticed an article headed "Planters and Roads" in which it was stated that the Malabar District Board had discussed the Government Memorandum suggesting the necessity of improving the Tellicherry Manantoddy Road at a cost of Rs. 1,48,730, two other roads were mentioned, of these I have no personal knowledge but can speak feelingly of the T. M. road, early in the season the annual repairs were carried out, and up to August the road was in fair order, nothing to be proud of, but as the monsoon tailed off, the timber carts commenced to work, it was then that the trouble began, September rains were fairly heavy and the weather cloudy, and the road became a veritable quagmire commencing from the 13 to 16 miles, 17 and 18th were not so bad, from there the bamboo land commences and goes right up to the 24th milestone, in places these are particularly dense, and if the District Board and the Forest Department had worked together, a great deal of the work of clearing the bamboos for 20/30 feet on either side of the road could have been done for nothing, there is no excuse about it being "reserved forest" because yearly bamboos are cut some fifty yards from the road side and carted to Irrity for floating down timber, what keeps the road in such bad order is the dense overhanging shade on either side of the road, and the allowing of the timber carts to commence work too soon in the season even now if the bamboos were cut for 20 ft. on either side of the road, the revenue derived therefrom would be sufficient to pay for the annual upkeep, and go a long way towards defraying the expense of metalling the road.

From 24th milestone up to 31st has been bad in parts, from there onwards has been in very fair order except for the "bunds" placed across the road, we don't want a steeple chase course but a level road.

Yours faithfully,  
A. L. ALEXANDER,



# The Planters' Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 8TH DECEMBER 1922.

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET QUIET.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

*United Service  
Club, Bangalore.*

With reference to our Note last week, the Secretary of this Club informs us that the original vaguely worded resolution, to be put at the Club Meeting on 19th December, will

be amended to read:—

*"No absentee subscription will be paid by non-resident Members. On return to Bangalore, such members will only be liable to pay the balance, if any, of their Entrance Donation".*

This, of course, is a quite different thing to the original proposal. Under this amended resolution, if passed, non-resident members will remain members of the Club, without paying any absentee subscription.

*The  
Secretary.*

We are glad to report that Mr. Waddington has got well over his attack of Enteric Fever, and is now practically convalescent. He hopes to be able to return to work soon after Christmas.

*U. P. A. S. I.  
Meetings.*

A notice has gone out to all members calling an Extraordinary General Meeting for the 28th February 1923, for the purpose of amending the Articles of Association, on the lines proposed at the Annual Meeting. A General Committee Meeting will be held at the same time to consider the Budget for the coming year, and to attend to all other Association business. The notice and agenda for this meeting will be issued about the end of January.

## CEYLON RECRUITING.

The proposals of the Joint Committee appointed some months ago for the purpose of discussing ways and means whereby the flow of labour into Ceylon might be increased and regulated, was discussed by the General Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon last month.

It is interesting to find that the recommendations of the Joint Sub Committee, with only one slight modification, were unanimously adopted,

As the methods employed by Ceylon, for recruiting in India, closely affect all planters we give a resume of these proposals which are of considerable interest.

The Government of Ceylon is to be asked to institute an ordinance whereby the expense of Indian recruitment is made a joint charge of all employers of Tamil labour, including Government itself. The first effect of this ordinance will be the appointment of a Board to collect and to administer funds for the purpose of encouraging the recruitment of Tamil labourers in India. This Board will have the Government Agent of the Western Province as its Chairman, with both Planting, Government and Mercantile representatives on the Board. The Board will be empowered to levy a poll tax, provisionally fixed at Rs. 5/- per annum, on every immigrant labourer employed in Ceylon. This tax will be paid by all employers of labour who employ 10 or more immigrant labourers. The Board will have power to institute proceedings against any employer who directly or indirectly charges any part of this tax to any employee.

The proceeds of this tax will form a fund, and, out of this fund, a bonus will be paid to the employers of immigrant labourers, who are liable to pay the tax, for the immigrant labourers introduced into Ceylon by them. This bonus has, provisionally, been fixed at Rs. 15 per labourer introduced into Ceylon. The bonus is paid on all labourers introduced into Ceylon, whether they have been previous residents in the island or not. The rate provisionally fixed for both the poll tax and the bonus may be adjusted by the Board later if found necessary.

Perhaps the most important point of the proposed ordinance is that it shall make it specifically illegal to charge up against the account of any labourer any expenses in regard to his recruitment, his journey to Ceylon, or the expense of feeding him up to the time he reaches his place of employment, and that all documents of whatever description, given or signed by the labourer as security for any advance or way expenses, are to be made null and void.

The rest of the proposals deal with methods of administration and need not be discussed here. The necessity of this proposed ordinance has arisen owing to the abolition of the Tundu system in Ceylon where a labourer is now free, in the truest sense of the word



as any cooly is at liberty to leave any estate on giving one month's notice. As a result, many of the estates have gone in for recruiting labour in the island, from their neighbours, etc., instead of recruiting from India, and hence, though the flow of labour from estate to estate in Ceylon has increased to a very great extent, there has been a falling off in the Coast recruiting. Perhaps it is not quite right to say that there has been an actual falling off in the numbers recruited in India for Ceylon of late, as we believe that in recent months there has been an increase in the number of coolies passing through Mandapam Camp compared with last year, but it would appear that there has been a decrease in the number of estates who are actually doing this recruiting, and who are bearing the burden of the expense of maintaining the labour supply in Ceylon.

The introduction of this poll tax will compel every employer of labour to share in this expense, and the result may well lead to considerable greater activity of Ceylon recruiting. We have often been asked why it is that coolies are so ready to go to Ceylon now and do not appear to be so eager for work on South Indian Estates. It would appear that labour has very rapidly appreciated the abolition of the Tundu system in Ceylon, and, if the new ordinance comes into force which will have the effect of placing the cooly on Ceylon estate absolutely free from any liability either to the man who recruited him or to the estate or to anyone else, he will appreciate the greater freedom far more, and will be still readier to emigrate.

This is bound to reflect on our recruiting; as there is no doubt that labourers go more readily to Ceylon as they know that they will be free from prosecution for debt from the non-repayment of advances, etc. As long as South Indian Estates have to continue with the advance system, so long will it be impossible for them to compete on level terms with Ceylon recruiting.

In this connection a similar note is sounded by the Travelling Superintendent of the Tea Districts Labour Association, in a circular which has been issued recently to all the members of the Indian Tea Association. In the course of his report he gives the following piece of advice to Assam planters:—

"Having lost a sirdar owing to his absconding, the best course is to say no more about it, unless by his conduct in taking several advances it is clear that his intention has been to defraud. The fewer the prosecutions in the recruiting districts the better, since they give the impression that the labourer is under compulsion in Assam, and this does not help recruiting."

The whole subject of recruiting labour in South India has grown into a difficult one, and it is impossible to say what should be done to improve it. Still there is no harm in considering the methods adopted by others and endeavouring to learn some lessons from them.

**THE UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA.**

NOTICE is hereby given that an extraordinary general meeting of the above Association will be held at Coimbatore at 10-30 o'clock in the forenoon, on Tuesday the 28th day of February 1923 for the purpose of considering and (if thought fit) passing the following resolution as a special resolution, viz:—

That the Articles of the Association be altered as follows:—

(1) By adding at the end of article 4 (d) the following words:—

“Any planter or retired planter may be a personal member of the Association provided that he has an interest either as Manager or shareholder in an estate subscribing to a District Planters' Association which is a member of the Association.”

(2) by deleting in article 6 (a) the words commencing “namely tea estates” to the words “minor products at the rate of Re. 1—0—0 per acre,” and substituting therefor the words “namely tea estates at the rate of Rs. 2—4—0 per acre, coffee at the rate of Rs. 1—8—0 per acre, rubber at the rate of 14 annas per acre, and minor products at the rate of 14 annas per acre.

(3) by inserting in article 6 (a) after the words “no increase” the following words viz., “or decrease.”

(4) by deleting in article 6 (c) the figure 15 and substituting therefor the figure 50.

(5) by inserting in article 13 (b) after the words “to raise” the following words viz., “or lower” and by inserting after the words “such increase” the following words viz., “or decrease’.

Should the above resolution be duly passed by the requisite majority, it will be submitted for confirmation at a subsequent general meeting of which notice will be given in due course.

Dated the 25th day of November 1922.

By order of the Board,  
(Sd.) H. WADDINGTON,  
*Secretary.*



## SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

## COFFEE PESTS IN UGANDA.

The Government Mycologist's report of the Department of Agriculture, Uganda for 1921 gives some interesting information on Coffee pests and diseases there, and an extract is herewith given.

The brown-eye spot of leaves and berries (*Cercospora coffeicola* B. and Cke.) has been more in evidence than in previous years. The percentage of affected berries has been over sixty in some cases, and a fair amount of loss must have been caused thereby, but it cannot be said that the presence of the fungus causes alarm. Spraying has not yet been resorted to. The best trees are not attacked as severely as those in comparatively poorer health. *Loranthus*, which is easily controlled by cutting, has occurred at times, and the fructifications of *Polyporus Coffeae Wakef.* were found once, and then for only the third time in all, during the period under review. This *Polyporus*, which was described as a new species from material collected in 1915, is associated at times with the coffee root mealy-bug *Pseudococcus citri*, and has never been found as an independent parasite of coffee. The fructifications occur around the collar of the tree or singly at soil-level in connection with lateral roots. The exact relation between mealy-bug and fungus has not been worked out. There is, however, a little direct evidence of its parasitism when accompanying the mealy-bug, but it has seemed sufficient in the past to confine combative measure to attack on the mealy-bug alone. No other root troubles of coffee have been reported. The coffee anthracnose fungus (*Colletotrichum Coffeanum* Noack) has been little in evidence, if at all, as a direct parasite of leaves, berries or twigs. In fact, it has not been reported or found on either leaves or berries during the year. In every case in which its presence was demonstrated, its parasitism was very doubtful, for the material was invariably derived from trees that were wholly or partly in the dried condition known locally as dieback. The question of dieback and its causes has been discussed in Circular No. 4 which is available to all who are interested. It has been shown that the *Colletotrichum* of coffee is not an agreeive parasite but is at the same time a common saprophyte of coffee, ready and willing to attack and live upon the weakened and dead twigs on which it is usually found. Reference is made to large-scale dieback in which the middle portion or the whole of the tree is involved, and to small-scale dieback in which only a few branches or perhaps a cluster of young twigs are diseased. The latter alone may be entirely due to fungus attack, but it is much less common than the other condition. This nomenclature has led to a certain amount of confusion. It would be preferable to confine the word *dieback* to the general dessication that results from a complex of causes of a physiological nature followed and aided at times by the work of fungi, and to employ the word *anthracnose* to distinguish the results of the direct attacks of *Colleto-*

*trichum* that do occur. This point was brought forward in a paper published in the Kew Bulletin [1921, p. 61], and it would be well to bring the name *anthracnose* into current use. Towards the end of December, a form of *anthracnose* was found on coffee on various estates. It has not yet been investigated, but it will not be surprising if it proves to be the result of insect attack. It is said to cease entirely when shade is provided for affected trees. On abandoned estates, the effects on coffee of the unfettered growth of weeds resemble those generally described as dieback. This point bears out the old contention that dieback or dessication of the coffee tree is due almost entirely to lack of vigour brought on by unfavourable conditions, one of which is overbearing, another the presence of weeds, another probably the lack of shade, and so on.

During the year, attention was called to a white mould that occurred at the entrance to and on the walls of the tunnels made in coffee berries by the berry-borer, *Stephanoderes hamperi* Ferr. The mould was isolated and found in pure culture to be one of the forms reported in Circular No. 4 [p. 19] to be carried by the Variegated Bug. It was alleged that it was causing the death of berryborers by suffocation or by parasitization of the insects, but no direct evidence was found to support either statement. The investigation might have been carried further, but it was suspended in order to await an entomological enquiry into the life-history of the borer which would answer certain questions that had cropped up. It is most likely that the fungus is merely saprophytic on the berry tissues disturbed and destroyed by the borer.

*Hemileia vastatrix* B. and Br. has been in evidence as usual. It is remarkable that this fungus, blamed as it was for the ruin of the coffee industry of Ceylon and having so terrible a reputation, should be regarded with almost complete equanimity by Uganda planters. Nowadays spraying for *Hemileia* is never dreamt of and much less is it attempted, and while it would be rash to assert that Uganda coffee has lost nothing through lack of spraying, it would be exceedingly difficult, apart altogether from the question of costs of materials and labour, to induce spraying to be taken up as a measure against *Hemileia* alone. After several years' observation of coffee under the influence, as it were, of *Hemileia*, it seems to the writer that the effects of the fungus, though never to be ignored or even despised, are not so harmful or so progressively weakening as was anticipated, and that they can be neutralised to a very great extent by the provision of the best cultural methods. It also seems as if Uganda coffee has successfully weathered the initial wave of *Hemileia* disease of a few years ago, and as if our experience has provided support for the assertion that the initial period of an Epidemic disease is the worst in its results and that the disease gradually subsides and lessens in virulence year by year. It should be remembered that cultural methods have been improved during the same time, and there may have been other factors in operation. It



seems to the writer to be a great mistake to imagine that the presence of a fungus can account at once for all the apparent harm that ensues. The two best-known fungi on Uganda coffee are *Hemileia Colletotrichum*, but they are not at the same time the greatest enemies of the crop. It may be mentioned in passing that a species of *Hemileia* nearly allied to *H. Vastatrix* has been found on *Strophanthus* on the Government Plantation, Kampala.

D. G. MUNRO,

Offg. Deputy Director of Agriculture,  
Planting Districts.

### ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
ANAMALLAI PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION,  
HELD ON THE 22ND NOVEMBER 1922, AT THE ANAMALLAI CLUB.

Present. Messrs. J. Hatton Robinson (Chairman) E. H. Francis,  
C. R. T. Congreve M. L. C., J. E. Sampson, A. C.  
Cotton, J. P. Morshed, S. Sladden, J. H. Ireland Jones,  
A. W. F. Mills, F. Simmons, J. E. Carless and  
D. Cooper (Honorary Secretary).

Major Panton Wells wrote regretting his inability to attend.

*Minutes.* The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 9th August 1922 were taken as read and confirmed.

#### *U. P. A. S. I. Annual Meeting: Delegates Report.*

Mr. Cotton read the report which was recorded and a vote of thanks accorded to the Delegates for having attended the Meeting was passed on the proposition of Mr. Francis and seconded by Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Congreve proposed and Mr. Francis seconded:—

"That Article of Association No. 6 be altered to allow of the  
following subscriptions being levied

"Tea Rs. 2/4/- per acre

"Coffee Rs. 1/8/- per acre

"Rubber and minor products annas 14."

Further, that the Executive Committee be asked to frame rules to enable them to extend personal membership: Carried mem. com.

#### *District Transport: Report of special Committee.*

Mr. Cotton read the report collaborated by Messrs. Robinson, Simmons and Cotton,—Members of the Special Committee appointed to enquire into the feasibility of constructing a road in the vicinity of the present Railway trace through to Chalakudi on the Cochin State Railway: and, also of reporting upon the cost of constructing other outlet roads, and of the possibility of improving the trace of the present Ghaut road below Attakatti.

The report is recorded in the Minute book.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the members of the Committee for the trouble they had taken in this matter.

*Proposal for Constructing a Ropeway Service.*

This matter had come before the Association in 1920 - but was at the time turned down on account of the prospects of the Anamallais - Cochin Railway being constructed at an early date.

The Association has not yet seen the Report on the Survey of the proposed Railway,- but, it is understood that a metre gauge line would cost a lakh of rupees, per mile, to construct - over a distance of 90-96 miles, and including Rolling Stock would probably cost a Crore of rupees.

The proposal for an Aerial Ropeway down the Ghaut Road and of its extension to the nearest Railway Station, has, thus, again come before the Association as a possible solution of the Districts transport difficulties.

The Meeting spent a considerable time discussing the Scheme, which had also come before the General Committee at its Meeting held on the 8th instant.

As a result, the following Resolution, proposed by Mr. Congreve and seconded by Mr. Carless, was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

“That Mr. Midgely, of Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co., be requested to arrange to make a detailed survey of a Ropeway from foot of the Hills into the District, and from bottom Station to the nearest Railway Station.”

“That all Estate owners and Agents be immediately approached to find out to what extent they would support a limited liability Co., to be immediately formed to construct a Ropeway and take over the transport of the District from the Ropeway head, that the survey be paid for by a special levy on estates belonging to A. P. A., and that the A. P. A. Committee meet within 8 days from this date and draw up a report for the undertaking.”

Mr. Congreve proposed and Mr. Cotton seconded:—

“That the leading residents of the villages of Kottur, Malayandi-pattanam, Angalakurichi, and Anamalai surrounding villages be approached to join in a memorial to Government and Railway Board asking that in the event of the Railway from Dindigal to Palghat being constructed the alignment be taken through, or near, these villages”. *Carried unanimously.*



*Repeal of act xiii of 1859 :—*

Meeting was in agreement with the Committee's suggestion and the Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the Collector that in the event of Act xiii of 1859 being repealed Act I of 92 may be made applicable to this District.

*Workmen's compensation act :—*This was recorded.

*Auditors.*—The Honorary Secretary reported that Mr. Waddington had asked him if he could arrange auditors for this year and have the books audited at Coimbatore as accounts would have to be audited by a chartered accountant. The Meeting agreed that the Honorary Secretary should arrange with Mr. Waddington for the necessary auditing of the books.

*Inter-district sports :—*The Chairman read Sir Fairless Barber's letter re:holding of the Madras cricket match at the end of December in Madras.

The Meeting confirmed the Committee's suggestion of paying player's expenses at the annual Inter-District Tennis tournament.

*Correspondence :—*District Telephones. The Honorary Secretary read out letters he had received from the Superintendent of Telegraphs on this subject and was requested to write asking that telephones might be installed in the District as soon as possible, with an exchange at Valparai.

Mr. Cotton's letter re:burning of new clearings was read out and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to Messrs. King and Partridge and obtain their opinion regarding fire getting into adjourning cultivation when new clearings are burnt off, and as to where responsibility began and ended,

The Honorary Secretary was also instructed to write the District Forest Officer regarding Kaders burning off jungle near to Karakundru Estate.

Mr. Cotton proposed and Mr. Sampson seconded :—

“That the A. P. A. make a donation of Rs. 150 in response to Mr. Sanford's appeal of October 28th.” *Carried.*

*Valparai Court :—*The Committee's action in this matter was confirmed. With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

(Sd.). J. HATTON ROBINSON,  
Chairman.

(Sd.). DUDLEY COOPER,  
Honorary Secretary.

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## THE WEEDING OF PLANTATIONS.

BY "PLANTER".

From the point of view of good husbandry weeds have always been deemed harmful, and incessant war is carried out against them all the world over at a cost, it must be, of many millions of money annually. In the case of cereal crops and vegetable and flower gardens, the necessity for this is obvious. It is less apparent in the case of trees like cocoanut and rubber and even in tea and coffee. Owing however, to the fact that weeds are regarded as an enemy that must be exterminated in connection with all cultivated crops, it was held to be the correct thing in Ceylon, when coffee was the sole plantation product there, to keep the land constantly free of weeds, and the system of monthly weeding was adopted, which was commenced directly the clearings were burned off. The practice of clean weeding is continued in the island in connection with tea and rubber to this day (unless in the case of the latter it has been relaxed owing to the depression in that industry) except that in some cases green manures are grown. A compromise is effected in the case of cocoanuts, all jungle and bad weeds, I understand, being removed once in 6 weeks while the natural grasses are allowed to remain, save in the 10 feet circles round the trees. This system of clean weeding, the constant maintenance of a bare surface, gives rise to a heavy loss of surface soil through wash. In experiments carried out at Peradeniya, it was ascertained that the exact quantity of this loss on average sloping land from March, 1909, to March 1910, with a rainfall of 59.03 inches during that period, was 115 tons per acre. How long could the richest land sustain so heavy a loss without suffering in fertility? The most liberal manuring could not make up a tithe of such loss. In the old days when coffee was cultivated in the island, it was sought to obviate this loss of soil by opening contour drains leading into the ravines at intervals throughout the fields. This did not stop wash, it only retarded it; and with the depletion of the most nourishing part of the soil, coffee being a surface feeder, its decadence and final extinction was accelerated. At that time the growing of green manure, which would have lessened the loss of soil and enriched it, and the growing of which was perfectly feasible, as coffee was then cultivated without shade,—was not thought of. It is easy to be wise after the event, but the judicious treatment of common weeds would have gone a long way to preserve the richest portion of the soil and as has been maintained, it is to the neglect of this that the extinction of coffee in Ceylon is mainly due.

Clean weeding used to be carried out in the para rubber estates in South India, and is so still, presumably, for it is the cheapest system of weeding once the weeds have been got under. As has been remarked, "it seems that the most effective means were adopted to get rid of the surface soil and then that great cost was incurred by terracing and draining to hold it up again." In many cases, especially on steep slopes, the land presents the appearance of consisting



of sand, gravel and stones. There is a great deficiency of humus, but this is made up for, to a fair extent, by the growing of leguminous green manures. Where stones are plentiful, which is the case in many estates, walls  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet on the upper side and of the same width, and following the contour of the hills at a dead level, are built at a cost of Re. 1 or Rs.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per chain at intervals of 35 to 40 feet. The hollows on the upper sides of the walls become rapidly filled up with soil, and then the soil is carried over the tops of the walls. A series of terraces are formed, but it is obvious that while the trees nearest the upper side of the walls receive an undue amount of soil, those away from them suffer from a depletion of soil about their roots. For this reason, therefore, it would appear a better plan to make semi-circular walls at a radius of 5 feet below each tree. In addition to the terraces, contour drains are put in between.

In Coorg and Mysore it was difficult to know how to treat weeds to the best advantage in Ghaut cultivation, especially in the absence of shade, the mulch provided by which would have gone a considerable way in diminishing loss of soil through wash. When Europeans commenced coffee planting in the above districts, the localities known as the "Ghauts" with their excessive rainfall of 200 inches a year, were held to be the most suitable for the cultivation of the plant. In addition to possessing the great disadvantage of an excessive rainfall, the land for the most part, was exceedingly steep. In those early days labour was scarce, the weeds got out of hand, and what was considered the most effective way of getting rid of them was adopted. This consisted of what was called "Clean burying" and was carried out in the following manner. Trenches sufficiently large to hold considerable quantities of weeds were opened at the foot of the slopes in the space between the rows of the coffee plants. Then the spaces, which varied according to the growth attained by the weeds were scraped clean and the weeds filled into the trenches. In the operation an inch or two of the rich surface mould was dragged down with the weeds, and the ground loosened ready to be acted on by rain. Next, at the upper end of the spaces scraped free of weeds other trenches were opened, the soil from which was utilised for covering over the weeds in the first opened trenches, and this kind of work was continued right up the whole length of the slopes of the hills. The first heavy down-pour of rain carried away hundreds of tons of soil and a fringe of green showed at each trench in which the weeds had been buried, the covering of soil having been washed away. This was certainly not a judicious way of disposing of weeds with a view to the preservation as far as possible of the surface soil. The most advantageous method of dealing with them which suggests itself would have been to have sickled down the weeds if they attained too great a growth during the period of the prevalence of heavy rains, and after the cessation of heavy rains to have hand weeded as often as was necessary. There may be some utility in placing the pulled-up weeds in ridges across the slopes as is done in some cases; but there is land so steep that the movement of coolies in the coffee displaces

the weeds and mulch and causes them to slide down till they are brought up by roads and paths which they obstruct. In such situations the construction of terraces seems practically an impossibility, and the only thing that suggests itself of practical utility is to open renovation pits in heavy weeds so that they may hold up the soil excavated from the pits. Thereafter the weeds may be pulled up and thrown into the pits. However, Ghaut places do not exist now, but there are semi-ghaut places, some of them very steep in parts. Many of these properties in the various Districts of Southern India have lasted over half a century in localities where the rainfall is comparatively light, and cultivation has been carried on under shade, the most remarkable being Canon's two places in Mysore which were first opened in 1841. On one of them the average annual rainfall is 120 inches.

In the bamboo districts of South Coorg, where the slope of the land is gentle and the average rainfall about 70 inches a year, the weeds are usually either sickled or pulled up by hand and left in heaps in the spaces between the rows two or three times a year, and this is followed by a deep forking when the heavy rains have ceased, a subsequent growth of weeds being chopped over with momaties before the harvesting of the crop is begun. This chopping breaks up and pulverises the upper crust of the soil more or less to a depth of 2 or 3 inches, and is a useful operation as with the weeds, a mulch is formed which serves to keep the soil moisture, which rises by capilarity from the subsoil, in the vicinity of the roots of the plants instead of being evaporated, which would be the case if the soil crust were left unbroken. Young plants are kept more frequently free of weeds throughout to help on their growth. As grasses are said to have a poisonous effect on plants it would perhaps be of benefit to do preferential weeding at first, eliminating the grass and letting the other weeds remain, but judging by the appearance of the coffee in grass, it does not appear to suffer any more than in other descriptions of weeds. But preferably it would be of the greatest advantage to grow leguminous crops instead of weeds wherever weeds will grow. The seed should be sown before the first hot weather showers so as to afford it every chance of growing up before the weeds. When a leguminous crop is cut down and incorporated with the soil it will, as has already been pointed out, enrich the soil in nitrogen, a plant food that has to be paid very highly for in the form of manure.

A useful description of work is carried on in one place in South Coorg. The coffee trees are mulched with *Erythrina Lithosperma* loppings 1½ feet on each side up the rows, and this is lightly dug over with momaty forks to incorporate it with the soil, the digging being done to a depth of 2 or 3 inches so that no injury may be done to the tender rootlets of the coffee. The weeds left in the remaining 2½ feet between the rows of trees is thereafter sickled, and on the cessation of the heavy rain this space is deeply forked

*Indian Scientific Agriculturist*



# The Planter's Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 15TH DECEMBER 1922.

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET QUIET.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Waddington has so far recovered that he has been able to go to Calicut for a change. He will probably remain there for a couple of weeks before returning to Coimbatore.

*The Secretary.*

As we go to Press, the Secretary of this Club informs us, that the original resolution will, at the request of the Proposer, be **entirely withdrawn** at the Extraordinary General Meeting.

*United Service Club, Bangalore.*

We regret to hear from Sir Fairless Barber that the Presidency vs. Planters match, which was to have been played in Madras, has had to be abandoned owing to the difficulty of getting a team together. Naturally Christmas week is a difficult time to get hold of men to play. In coffee districts the crop is in full swing, and men generally prefer to spend Christmas with families. We understand that Sir Fairless Barber is going to Madras and is trying to arrange to fix a date for the Match later on.

*S. I. P. Cricket Match.*

Of late rather smaller supplies have been offered at auction in London, and although, on the whole, Good to Fine Teas have met with ready demand, common to medium Teas have been fetching poorer prices. There will be a sale of Indian Tea on the 18th December, and of Ceylon Tea on the 19th, but after this there will be no further sales until the week commencing the 8th January, 1923.

*Tea  
Market*

Supplies at auction in London continue small, but at the same time there is but little demand. The outlook for good prices next year is less promising, though, as is usual, first arrival of good quality will be bought freely by the Home Trade.

*Coffee  
Market.*

Messrs. Leslie and Anderson report that, in their opinion, unless a change comes over continental exchanges and they improve fastly, the market will not be supported to any extent by Exporters, and therefore medium to inferior qualities are likely to be cheaper than last season. Locally, the new season has opened with prices for November - December delivery at about Rs. 70 cured ex-bags. Very little business for later delivery has been done, and buyers are only offering about Rs. 65 for deliveries from January onwards. On the whole the crop appears to be a bit late and some doubt is expressed as to estimates of crop being realised on many estates.

It would appear that there will be a good demand again next season for bold cured cardamoms. There is always a limited demand for these, but at present we learn that the demand is for unbleached cardamoms.

*Cardamom  
Market.*

The Rubber Market in London has been quiet, but prices are firm. We note from cable advices that First Plantation Creepe is now quoted at the same rate as Fine Hard Para, which is unusual. At the middle of last month London stocks again showed an increase, and stood at 68,564 tons.

*Rubber  
Market.*

## THE DETERIORATION OF COFFEE.

BY "PLANTER".

Mr. J. Cameron, late Superintendent of Parks and Gardens to the Government of Mysore, was of opinion that coffee should be "rotated with other crops." Writing on the subject in the *Madras Mail* on the 8th September, 1905, he said that cultivated as it is under the forcing system now in vogue, coffee should not occupy the land more than fifteen years, but subsequently modified this statement by saying that this condition did not begin on the day the seedling was put into the ground, and agreed with the *Madras Mail* that an initial period



of ten or twelve years was required in the case of coffee for "planting up and giving the estate heart for a time of greater productiveness," which allows the planter a quarter of a century of continuous cultivation on a single plot of ground, and "if he fails to make a competence in that time, he is likely to fail altogether". But despite this, his own impression is that "fifteen successional crops of coffee taken under the forcing system is enough for the plant, even if the soil should hold good." But fifteen successional crops are never consecutive good crops—What then?

If, he said, planters think coffee once removed cannot be grown again on the same land, the time is not far distant when the industry will decay, and all coffee lands worked under the existing method will revert to jungle. He was not of this opinion. He believed that by working the soil judiciously—not over working it and by selecting the best strains of seed for the different cropping periods, the land is capable, with intervals of rest, of being cropped over and over again. The Western Ghats contain a mine of mineral wealth which may be indented upon for thousands of years. If coffee became a running crop, shifting its ground every twenty-five years, the industry would be founded on a sounder basis than it is at present. There are a very few old estates still said to be working profitably, but against these we have, on every side, the sorry spectacle of monied firms trying to redeem their mortgages from worn-out and mismanaged estates. By a happy provision of nature the land under crop serves out its food constituents sparingly; therefore, a naturally rich soil would possibly hold out for a long time even if the crop is not changed, and it would certainly do so when the actual food constituents are periodically put back to the soil in the form of manure. But if the crop is a perennial one, the plant that produces it is gradually getting older, and the only relief nature gives to the extension of life is a light burden added to a strong constitution. A plant ages in proportion to the burden it has to bear, and coffee cultivated under the forcing system could not be called young at twenty-five. It is possible that a pedigree seedling raised from a specially productive stock of several generations may hold forth strong and capable for another decade or so without showing signs of distress; but this would be the exception rather than the rule. It will thus be seen that while the soil can easily be supported, there is no such support for the plant beyond the constitutional limit when it has done its best.

Unfortunately Mr. Cameron does not recommend what crops should be rotated with coffee; and the planter is confronted with the difficulty that the choice of remunerative crops is so restricted. In some districts Tea can be substituted for coffee, but not in others; and if it proved a success, there would be little likelihood of the land planted with it reverting to coffee again, at least for a longer period than 25 years. In districts like Coorg and Mysore it would only be possible to grow pepper and Ceara rubber and it is hopeless to expect that the latter will ever pay again having regard to its yielding capabilities in comparison with Para. So

impossible did Mr. Cameron's recommendation strike them that planters generally raised a strong protest against it, and yet, why it may be asked, should it appear so impossible when it is considered that when coffee retrogrades so much as to become unremunerative it is simply abandoned? The late Mr. R. D. Tipping thought that matters as regards the prevention of the deterioration of coffee may be remedied by changing the shade by eliminating old shade and growing a variety of young shade differing from that already growing leguminous crops where conditions would allow of it, and so assist in altering the nature of the soil as to bring its food constituents into combinations suitable for coffee. What might be done when a field of coffee has deteriorated to the stage after which its continued cultivation would no longer be profitable is to plant it up with *Erythrina lithosperma*, *Crotalaria striata* and other legumes, prior to abandoning it, and after a term of years replant it with coffee. In this connection it is interesting to note that Mr. R. D. Tipping mentions that a plot, which had been under guinea grass for ten years and the crop regularly removed from it, was planted up with coffee and the plants grew exceptionally well. "Land left to itself uncropped and uncultivated accumulates fertility." But it was discovered in Mysore that worn out coffee estates could be given a new lease of productiveness by being replanted with new varieties of coffee. Mr. Cameron says:—"As a matter of fact a large percentage of the original plants would be gone in twenty-five years and their places taken by younger ones—'supplies'. As a rule, the latter find it difficult to lay hold of the soil and are not such good croppers as the original plants are. This is not that there is anything repugnant in the soil to receiving a new lot of plants it is generally because a complex net-work of coffee roots forms a mechanical barrier to their admittance into the soil. In other words, they are heavily handicapped from the beginning. It is a matter of patching up, the patch itself being the first to suffer. Where estates are allowed to go on for forty or fifty years, there must be a good deal of patching." The first part of this statement is not true of a non-borer district, where the majority of the original plants remain intact throughout; and the second part about a complex net work of coffee roots forming a mechanical barrier to the admittance of a new lot of plants has been dis-proved in Mysore, where places were replanted with new varieties while the old trees were still in occupancy of the land, and yet came on so well that when the original trees were eventually removed they presented the appearance of new estates. Another innovation for rejuvenating places is the practice comparatively suckers on the stools. The stumps are covered with clods of soil old shade is cut down and a fire run over the land, and the results have been very encouraging.

It is not only a successional number of heavy crops that brings about the deterioration of coffee. The diseases and pests to which it is heir must have a considerable share in it. The list is rather a



formidable one. There is borer, leaf disease (hemeleia vastatrix), white mealy bug on the roots, and green bug on the leaves, black leaf, rot and stump rot fungus (*Rosellinia padiciperda*). There is something altogether mystical about coffee. Despite the fact that the requirements of plant food for a yield of 7 cwts. per acre, according to Mr. John Hughes (Agricultural Chemist brought out by the Ceylon Planters' Association and who wrote a report on Coffee Soils and Manures), amount to few pounds of nitrogen, potash and phosphates and despite the fact that the mulch received from the shade trees amounts it is said, to an equivalent of over hundred pounds of poonac, potash and bone meal, and theoretically should afford all the nutriment required by the plants, yet it requires in addition a well-balanced complete manure in a suitable form for the roots to absorb--in other words, "the peptonised pap of the invalid" as the late Mr. C. Danvers puts it, in order that they should do their best. In this connection it may be stated that a mixture of raw bone meal, potash and castor cake, or poonac does not constitute a well-balanced complete manure, because the nitrogen of the poonac and the potash become available before the bone meal, which persists in the soil for two years before the plants can make use of it. The three ingredients should be as nearly as possible of equal degrees of solubility. A good deal of the peculiar characteristics of coffee as regards its food requirements is explained by the following extract what Mr. B. Nelson wrote on the subject in the now defunct *Planting Opinion* on January 8, 1898: "One often hears it stated as a reason that old coffee does not bear as well as it used to formerly now that the soil is exhausted." Now, however true this may be as regards the capacity of the coffee to extract nutriment from the soil, it is certainly incorrect to speak of the soil being exhausted itself. This is clearly proved by the fact that annual growth of jungle and weeds on an acre of abandoned coffee must contain many times the nitrogen and minerals by a coffee crop. Tea is a far more exhausting crop than coffee, and grows freely in land that coffee can no longer exist in, so that, rather than speak of the soil being exhausted, it would be more correct to say that the supply of plant food in suitable combinations for coffee to attack is exhausted. It is for this reason that liberally and judiciously manured estates forty and fifty years old are continuing to do well, and are actually in better heart now than they were fifteen or twenty years ago. According to an analysis by Dr. Voelker, the eminent Agricultural Chemist, the laterite soils of the coffee and tea estates of Southern India are deficient in potash, phosphates and lime. The first two require to be replenished in suitable combinations and the right quantities, and the last as quick lime in somewhat liberal quantity. In a report on a soil from Mysore Dr. Voelker said that the only soil constituent lacking was lime, and he recommended an application of 5 tons per acre. This is said to have staggered the proprietor of the estate, but he could have applied it at the rate of one ton an acre per year for 5 years. Having no other fertiliser to purchase, the cost would not have been prohibitive. As an instance that reliance

cannot always be placed on soil analysis it may be stated that in another case the soil of an estate was reported to be too impoverished to support the plants, and yet the following year the place yielded a crop of 5 cwts. per acre when it was forty years old, which was a very handsome crop as things are now.

*(Indian Scientific Agriculturist).*

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## A NEW BOOK ON COFFEE.

We have just received from Kenya a copy of "Practical Coffee Planting" by Mr. F. H. Sprott who was well-known in Coorg a few years back. The book is a very complete treatise on Coffee growing from the seed to the finished article and is primarily meant as guide to coffee planting in Kenya Colony. It contains however several items which are of interest to all coffee planters and it is a book that should find its place in every Coffee Estate Library. The first two chapters deal with choice of an estate and on the amount of capital required for opening both small and large estates. The next two chapters deal with the clearing and planting of coffee, followed by another chapter on the care of young coffee. Then follow chapters on shade, the fungous diseases of coffee, and the insect pests of Coffee. Then follows some sound advice to Young Planters and a general description of the work of an estate including suggestions for keeping estate books, forms etc. There are also chapters on manuring and preparation of coffee for the market. The whole book is well got up and is in simple straight-forward language and closes with an exceedingly full and useful index and a plan of a Coffee Cherry Loft, Pulp house and Fermenting Vats. In his foreward Mr. Sprott remarks:—

"My apprenticeship in Coffee was served with Messrs. Mangles Bros., a well-known private Company in N. Coorg, South India, and I acknowledge with gratitude the training I received and remember with affection the years I spent in that—to my mind at least—most beautiful country.

"Although this book is primarily intended as a guide to Coffee Planting in Kenya, nevertheless I Cherish the hope that it may be of interest to Planters in other countries and particularly to some of my old friends."

We have a limited number of copies available for sale at Rs.8/- and shall be pleased to order more copies from Kenya, if required.



## LABOUR DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

## COOLY AGREEMENTS MADE IN THE MYSORE STATE.

For the information of subscribers residing in the Mysore State, and advancing labour within the State, it should be noted that under Government Notification No. Fl. 1255-S. R. 19-06-05 dated 3rd September 1908 published at page 222 of the Mysore Gazette Part III dated 3rd September 1908 that the stamp duty of As. 1 (Mysore) on cooly agreements is sufficient provided the agreement does not exceed Rs. 20/-. Exceeding this amount agreements should be written on Mysore paper at the rate of As. 8 for each Memorandum of Agreement, unless the documents are in the form of Promissory Notes.

(Signed) C. H. BROCK,  
Director,

## LABOUR DEPARTMENT U.P.A.S.I.

## PALAMCOTTAH DIVISION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1922.

The demand of labour in the low country dropped off considerably during the month. Ploughing and planting of the next paddy crop was practically completed and there is every reason to expect a bumper harvest next year. The prices of foodstuffs and grain have increased considerably over September and October prices, in some cases 25 %.

With the exception of a break of ten days rainfall during the month was unusually heavy.

The following is a rough list of the prices prevailing during November.

## MADRAS MEASURES.

Paddy (Samba)	...	Rs. 17/-	112 Measures.
Paddy (Anaikomban)	...	Rs. 18/8/-	112 Measures.
Rice (Samba)	...	Re. 1/-	3 Measures.
Rice (Anaikomban)	...	Re. 1/-	2½ Measures.
Ragi	...	Re. 1/-	6 Measures.
Cholam	...	Re. 1/-	6¼ Measures.
Chillies	...	Rs. 2/8/	to } Per Thulam.
		Rs. 3/8/	
Horse Gram	...	Re. 1/-	4 Measures.
Dholl	...	Re. 1/-	2¾ Measures.
Cumboo	...	Re. 1/-	6¼ Measures.
Black Gram	...	Re. 1/-	2¾ Measures.

A. G. A. DUNNING,  
Superintendent.

## MYSORE DIVISION REPORT.

During the month rainfall has been abnormal all over the District. Tanks are all now full and the general outlook for the seasons crops is good. The Harvest is now commencing and work is plentiful in the villages at rates up to As. 8 per day or payment in kind which the cooly prefers.

The latest Gundlupet Shandy prices are :—

Ragi per pullah of 100 Mysore seers	Rs. 10/-	•
Rice do	„ 22/-	
Cholam do	„ 10/-	
Horse Gram do	„ 11/-	

These rates seem likely to drop as soon as the new crop comes into the market. During the heavy rains there was a good deal of plague and fever prevalent in the villages but with the advent of the dry weather this is now subsiding.

C. C. KENT,  
Superintendent.

## MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF A QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MUNDAKAYAM PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MUNDAKAYAM CLUB ON SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER AT 2-30 P. M.

PRESENT. Messrs. F. G. Millar, Chairman, J. J. Murphy, C. L. Mclean, E. J. Thom, R. M. Saywell, H. B. MacPherson, G. H. Danvers Davy, M. S. Calderwood, H. R. Carson-Parker, I. N. James, H. V. Tringham, H. Ashplant, and O. J. Egan-Wyer, Hon. Secretary.

Before beginning the business for the day the Chairman referred to the sad death of the late Mr. R. Lester a former Member of this Association : The usual vote of condolence was passed, all members standing.

MINUTES. Notice calling the Meeting was read. Minutes of the Quarterly General Meeting held on July 8th & 9th and the Extraordinary General Meeting held on August 12th were read and confirmed.

DISTRICT RATES OF PAY. After considerable discussion the matter was dropped for want of support.

INTER-DISTRICT LABOUR RULES. Proposed from the Chair "That the Inter-District Labour Rules be accepted by the Association." *Carried.*

INCORPORATION OF S. I. PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND. It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary write to the Secretary of the U. P. A. S. I. confirming our resolution that the P. B. F. be Incorporated,



BANGALORE DELEGATES REPORT. Mr. C. L. Mclean read the Delegates Report. Proposed from the Chair "That a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Messrs. Murphy and Mclean for representing the Association." *Carried.*

DELEGATES EXPENSES. Proposed by Mr. G. H. Danvers Davy that the following Allowance be paid each Delegate:—

Car Hire	Rs. 135-0-0
Rail Fare	„ 130-0-0
Way Expenses	„ 60-0-0
Hotel Expenses	„ 75-0-0
	<hr/>
Total	400-0-0
	<hr/>

Seconded by Mr. Carson Parker. *Carried.*

ELECTION OF S. M. P. A. DELEGATE. The election of Mr. F. G. Millar to represent this Association at the forthcoming Meeting was confirmed. The Delegate was requested to bring up the following subjects.—

1. Removal of Toll Gate from the 32nd Mile on the Kottayam-Mundakayam Road.
2. Removal of the Magistrates Court from Mundakayam.

INCORPORATION. Proposed by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Mclean., That final Incorporation be deferred. *Carried.*

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR. Proposed from the Chair that Mr. M. S. Calderwood be asked to audit the Books of the Association. *Carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE. A letter from Central Travancore P. A. re. the U. P. A. S. I. Tennis Tournament and Tea Thefts. It was resolved to give them our support.

Read letter from Secretary U. P. A. S. I. re. arrears of subscription. It was resolved that all Members should make an effort to pay up in full before the end of the year.

Read letter from the Commissioner Devicolum re Profit and Loss Accounts of Tea Estates in connection with Income Tax.

Read letter from Mr. H. C. Westaway re St. George's Church Peermade, Church yard. The Hon. Secretary was requested to send a subscription List around the District.

Mr. Murphy spoke in connection with correspondence he had received re a "Planters' Cup" at the Ooty Hunt Races. The Hon. Secretary was requested to collect subscriptions for this.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting terminated.

F. G. MILLAR,  
Chairman,

O. J. EGAN-WYER,  
Hon. Secretary.

### **SOUTH MYSORE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION, (*Incorporated*).**

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD AT  
THE MUNZERABAD CLUB, SAKLASPUR, ON 16—11—22.

Present:—Major A. L. Hill, O. B. E., M. C., (President), Mr. H. F. Anderson, Lt-Col., W. L. Crawford, D. S. O., Messrs. M. A. G. de Weck, P. Hunt, C. Lake, W. F. Scholfield, E. H. Young and A. Durham. (Hony. Secretary).  
Visitor: Mr. Thomas.

The Notice calling the Meeting was read.

The following resolution was put from the Chair and carried unanimously:—"That the following resolution, passed at the Meeting on 26—10—22 be confirmed:—"That the amendments of the Articles of Association recommended in the report of the Rules Sub-Committee presented to the Association at the Meeting on 30-6-21 be adopted' ".

The Meeting then closed.

(Sd.) A. L. HILL,  
President.

A. DURHAM,  
Hon. Secretary.

### **BRITISH MILKING RECORDS.**

#### **THE FIRST 3000 GALLON COW.**

Further evidence of the remarkable improvement in British dairy cattle since the inception, by the ministry of Agriculture, of the movement to record the milk yields of cows, is furnished by three recent record-breaking performances standing to the credit of the British Friesian breed.

At midday on Thursday, 26th October, the British Friesian cow, Brookside Colantha, completed her yield of 3000 gallons of milk in less than 365 days. This cow owned by the Hache Herd at Findon, Worthing, is the first cow in this country to reach a production of 3000 gallons in less than a year. Sixty two British cows have annual milk yield in excess of 2000 gallons in one year, and of the number no less than 58 are British Friesians, the breed that has won every open milk championship for three years running at the Dairy Show. In her lifetime Brookside Colantha has had five calves and produced 9350 gallons of milk, equivalent to about 42½ tons, and nearly six times her own weight.

#### **THE FIRST 2000 GALLONS.**

Another record for Britain has been set up by the British Friesian heifer, Chaddesley Glen-Stately, the property of Longford Farms Ltd., Derby. This remarkable animal has yielded, since giving birth to her first calf, 2004 gallons in 358 days, the extraordinary merit of her performance being that she is the first heifer in this country to attain the coveted 2000 gallon production in her initial lactation period yield.



Another record-breaking feat is that accomplished by the Haydon herd of British Friesian cattle belonging to Mrs. Putnam. In this herd, during the last few days, three cows have reached the 2,000 gallon standard of production namely Beccles Lulu, Saltcote Pel Daisy and Gorstage Gem. Each month the British Friesian Cattle Society publishes for the information of its members, a list of heavy milking cows with their yields to date, and Mrs. Putnam is the first breeder to have at one time three 2000 gallon cows in such list. The above figures indicate the great improvements effected in the dairy cows of this country in general and in the British Friesian cattle in particular.

(Extract from N. B. A. of November 2nd.)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(The Planters' Chronicle is not responsible for the opinion of its correspondents).

#### Jackson's Hybrid.

SIR,

At the beginning of August this year, I supplied up parts of two estates with the following results:—

(1) *Jacksons Hybrid*.—Healthy nursery plants put out in good rich soil to fill vacancies in old coffee which bears a yearly average of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cwts. per acre. To give the plants every chance of light and air, only spaces where two or more old trees had gone were filled. In many cases, wherever possible, the pits were filled with jungle soil.

*Result*.—Leaf disease after 3 weeks, about 20 per cent dead, 10 per cent good and the rest in a more or less complete state of leaflessness and looking like nothing on earth.

(2) A field of cut down Leeming. Shade and top soil practically non-existent—Coffee very poor and sparse, supplied with seed from the estate itself—Very poor nursery plants.

*Result*.—Very few failures, all the rest far better than any of No. 1

Yours faithfully,

"CROCOPUS CHLOROGASTER".

#### Kent's Arabica.

DEAR SIR,

In publishing the valuations on Kent's Arabica, and in fairness of Mr. Kent, I should have said at the time that the foxiness complained of was in no way a fault of the coffee, but in the preparation or curing of it, and I hope you will kindly publish this letter.

Yours faithfully,

SAM J. WILSON.

DEAR SIR,

I have seen it written that 'Coffee' is one of the very few industries that can expect no redress in the event of a slump.

With this factor in view I am tempted to put before your subscribers the following:—

At present, The United Planters' Association of Southern India serves the purpose of maintaining a buffer between the Planters, interests and the depredations of those, either disinterested or hostile thereto. The Institution is a sound one, and internal quibbles can be passed over, for the undoubted benefits to be derived from co-operation. Suggestions have frequently been made to the Association that more consideration might be given to advertising Indian Coffee—that benefits must assuredly accrue therefrom. We now, I think, arrive at the crux of the whole matter.

Supposing a large sum was so extended, should we not still be dealing with the 'Middleman'—has he not still the power to retail our produce at such rates as he considers advisable—his interests to stand as hitherto, first?

A few 'whys' perhaps, would not be out of place. In times so called 'prosperity'—why should coffee be retailed at £ 350 per ton and the Planter receive but £ 90 for his efforts?—a quarter, say, of the valuation put upon his goods, by the public at Home. Why should not the Public be given the opportunity of purchasing Coffee at £ 250 per ton (to be maintained at that figure) and the Planter to receive his £ 200 per ton?

How much a better advertisement would his prove, if "the finest coffee in the world" could reach the consumer at a low and reliable rate?

I now endeavour to raise the point at which both Planter and Consumer can obtain mutual redress:—

- i. That a Company be formed to maintain a Clearing House in England, for all South Indian Coffees.
- ii. That Coffee be marketed therefrom at two rates:—  
(i) to the retailer, (ii) to the consumer. That these rates vary as little as possible.
- iii. That the capital for the above Company be raised by short dated interest bearing bonds, issued at a discount. On the expiration of the term of years, the Company should be in a position to proceed unassisted.
- iv. That when shipments arrive in England, a draft for £ 50/- per ton be immediately sent to the Planter in question—to enable him to carry on.
- v. That the balance money received from sales at the end of the financial year, be paid over to the Planter in the form of dividends.

With the unique position held by S. India as regards mild coffees, I should imagine there would be no fear of boycott; on the contrary, the whole scheme should be so managed, as to promote the interests of the consumer and retailer alike—a curb being placed on the profiteer only, who seeks to attach to himself the benefits accrued by the industry, which should in first place, benefit the Planter.

C. S. I.



# The Planter's Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. A. S. I., Incorporated.

(Secretary's Registered Telegraphic Address "UPASI," Coimbatore.)

Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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### PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 15TH DECEMBER 1922.

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET QUIET.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

By the time this issue reaches our readers, Mr. Waddington will be back, in Coimbatore. We are very glad to report that he has practically regained his full strength and vigour.

*The  
Secretary.*

We learn that the question of assessing income derived from the cultivation and manufacture of Coffee to income-tax is under the consideration of the Government of India, and orders are expected shortly from the Board of Inland Revenue, Delhi. In the meantime, any returns that may

*Income-tax  
on*

*Coffee Estates.*

be received asking for the income derived from the profits of the cultivation and manufacture of Coffee should not be filled in until the U. P. A. S. I. has announced that a satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at.

### TEA CHESTS.

The question of the use of inferior local woods in tea chests has been brought to a head by the action of the Australian Government in connection with boring insects. The Australian Government now refuses to allow any wood affected by the borer to be landed in the Commonwealth, and any tea sent there in borer-affected chests is liable to confiscation. At present all tea on arrival from producing

countries is subject to quarantine. The authorities make very careful inspection of all cases in order to detect borer, and instances have already occurred in which owners have been required to fumigate and then destroy packages found to be affected. The result of these stringent regulations has been that practically every Colombo house with an Australian connection has received instructions from Australia to pay particular attention to the chests in which tea is shipped, as in addition to the loss from confiscation penalties can be enforced for importing wood in which the borer insect is discovered. Shippers in Colombo realize that, however much they may doubt the necessity of the Australian regulations, they have no option but to observe them, and during the past few months they have been put to endless worry and trouble in re-packing tea sent down from estates in borer-affected chests. Before the war, only a very small proportion of Ceylon tea was packed in local chests. But during the war period the difficulty of obtaining imported chests, and the high price of those that were obtainable, forced estates to fall back on chests made from native woods. When imported chests were available again, the tea slump made every economy in production essential, and there was some excuse during the lean years for the inferior woods that were employed. The use of such chests was, however, attended by countless complaints, and the number of claims that arose on account of defective packages caused endless correspondence and trouble. There are, of course, certain local woods which make excellent chests which come to Colombo are not only affected with borer but are rendered by the use of inferior soft and unseasoned planks absolutely unfit for shipment. So far as borer is concerned, it is estimated that between 80 and 90 per cent. of the native chests are affected. In view of the present high prices tea is realizing, there is no excuse for estates using such chests which, candidly speaking, are unmerchantable. To use Momis, which are not subject to borer, costs only half a cent a pound more than to use native chests, while in the case of tea intended for Australia, a large proportion of which has to be re-packed, re-packing costs from a cent to a cent and a half a pound. In some cases it is known that estates, during the time when the price of imported chests was prohibitive, entered into large contracts for the supply of native woods, and are, therefore, tied down for a time. As these contracts expire, many estates are packing in Momis, as the sale catalogues show. But there are numbers of instances where, in order to effect a very small saving, estates are clinging to inferior native chests. There was one very glaring case at a recent sale, when a tea which sold at Re. 1.47 a pound was announced in the auction room as being packed in second-hand native chests. Estates can, perhaps, afford to be independent at the moment, when every ounce of tea put on the market is being fought for. But buyers and shippers will not put up for ever with the necessity of carefully examining every package for borer, and then re-packing a very large proportion. There is always the danger of a consignment of tea going down to Australia with borer insects, which are by no



means easy to detect, in the chests. Should this happen, as it is bound to sooner or later, it will inevitably result in the confiscation of a large quantity of valuable tea, and the estate's reputation will suffer considerably. In the present boom times, no estate can plead that the slight extra cost entailed in packing in hard and suitable native woods or in imported chests cannot be afforded. The extra cost is, as has been said, only half a cent a pound, while Colombo buyers state that they would willingly pay a cent a pound more for tea packed in Momis than for tea packed in native chests. It is not only a question of borer. The use of proper packages is a matter which vitally affects the name of Ceylon tea. If all estates used either properly-selected native or imported packages, they would save a great deal of trouble at the other end. As a rule, when native packages are used, at the very least 5 or 6 per cent. of the shipment is damaged when it arrives at its destination. If Momis are used, it can almost be guaranteed that the shipment will arrive in good condition. The use of good, sound packages would not only help shippers considerably, but it would tend to increase very materially the popularity of Ceylon tea, particularly in Australia. It is a well-known fact that those who handle cargo in Australian ports do not err on the side of gentleness. Already some Ceylon estates have been barred in Australia on account of the inferior packages they employ, and such occurrences have always the tendency to drive importers to Java teas, which have made big headway in the Commonwealth during recent years. Producers have only to enquire at Colombo business houses to realize how important this question of proper packing is. They will be told by anyone who imports goods that the main reason Australian products do not make bigger headway in Ceylon is that they are badly packed. And what applies to Australia in Ceylon also applies to Ceylon in Australia. It may be urged that to employ only imported packages would be to penalize a local industry. It would, however, be the height of folly to risk creating a prejudice against Ceylon teas in such a large market as Australia in order to encourage a small local industry which obviously cannot face outside competition. Certain hard native woods, it is admitted on all sides, make really excellent chests. But the supply of these woods is not sufficient to meet the demand, and consequently inferior woods are resorted to. Estates will be very short-sighted if they do not give the matter serious and immediate attention, for, as soon as the market shows an easier tendency, there is no doubt that Australian shippers at any rate will be forced to avoid tea sent down in borer-affected chests, and will confine their attention to tea marketed in merchantable packages, *i. e.*, in imported chests or chests made from the harder varieties of local woods. Estates cannot plead that the cost of good chests is today prohibitive. With tea averaging over a rupee a pound, half a cent a pound is a small outlay to ensure the product being put on the market under the most favourable conditions. And the extra cost is more than saved by the elimination of re-packing, the absence of claims, the better reputation gained for the tea, and improved relations between the buyer and the seller.—(*Times of Ceylon*).

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## RAILWAYS IN SOUTH INDIA.

Planters will remember that, at the last Annual General Meeting, Col. Barnardiston told us that the future programme of railway reconstruction and the commencement of new Lines was dependent to a great extent on the Report of Mr. J. Izat. This Report has now been issued.

Mr. Izat's conclusions are that the most important new works called for are. (1) The doubling of the metre gauge Main Line from Madras Beach to Villupuram. (2) A new metre gauge Chord Railway from Villupuram to Trichinopoly, so constructed as to allow for conversion later to double Board Gauge. (3) A metre gauge Chord Railway from Trichinopoly via Karaikudi to Maniyachi, also on basis of later being converted to Broad Gauge, and (4) A metre gauge extension from Arantanghi to Karaikudi.

He states that he has no hesitation in saying that these four projects far exceed in importance all other projects for Railway expansion in Southern India, as being absolutely necessary to enable the South Indian Railway to handle efficiently the traffic now offering on that Railway. These projects are to relieve present congestion on the existing lines, although some will open up new country at same time.

As regards projected new Lines, he places in order of importance:—(1) The Trichur-Pollachi-Dindigul Metre Gauge Railway with branch from Kollengode to Olavakot. (2) The Shoranur Nilambur Metre Gauge Line. With reference to the Cochin-Anamalais High Range Railway project as in his opinion, this line is unlikely to be constructed within the next ten years, he dismisses it from consideration. Political considerations may cause the taking up the construction of the Line Shoranur-Nilambur at an earlier date than would otherwise be the case considering the order of urgency laid down by him on the basis of railway considerations only.

We must mention that we have used above the expression "Broad Gauge" Lines, as being the term in common use as regards the gauge of the Line Madras-Mangalore, but in the Report these are always called Standard Gauge.

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## THE CENSUS OF 1921.

Report of the Census taken last year is now to hand, and the following figures as regards the Madras Presidency will prove of interest.

The total area of the Presidency was 143,852 square miles, of which British India comprised 142,260, the rest being made up of the small Indian States of Pudukottah, Banganapalle and Sandur.



The total population of the Presidency was 42,794,155 as compared with the population of the United Kingdom, excluding Ireland, by census taken the same year, of 42,767,520. The number of women in the Presidency exceeded that of the men by 593,839, a very different condition of affairs than that revealed by the census at Home where the excess of women was no less than 1,906,000. In Madras the number of wives exceeded that of husbands by 548,769. This of course is not to be accounted for wholly on the score of the practice of polygamy among certain races, due allowance must be made for the wives of men employed on the sea, and of men who have emigrated, leaving their wives behind, for returns from other Provinces of India and Countries showed a population of over one and a half million Madrasies resident in other parts of India and countries outside India.

The number of houses in the Presidency was 8,416,265 giving an average of nearly exactly five persons per house. The density of Population per square mile, was almost identical with that of Japan, i. e. 297 as compared with 482 in England, Scotland and Wales.

Of this total 42,794,155 inhabitants of the Madras Presidency, 3,667,737 were returned as literate, that is able to read and write some language, or say 86 in every 1000. As one would expect, the Tamil Brahmin is the best educated of the Indians, 466 per thousand being literate. Compare this with the Cheruman, Khond and Savara, of which castes only four in every thousand are able to read and write.

The total European population of the Presidency was 10,838 of whom 9,950 (compared with 12,741 in 1911) were British subjects, 983 of these being soldiers. We have been unable, from the figures as given, to separate the civil from the military population. The rest of the European community are made up of contributions from most of the European countries and America, Australia and Africa, who are included in this return as allied races, but it may be noted that the German population now numbers 11 compared with 545 Germans resident in the Presidency in 1911. Of the European population 2,944 are resident in Madras City, 3,525 in the Nilgiris. The distribution of sexes is much more even than one would expect, of the total European population of 10,836; 5,723 were males and 5,113 females.

The British subjects were made up of :—

English	6,721.
Irish	1,101.
Scotch	725.
Welsh	41.
Australians	78.
Canadians	34.

The presence of the Leinster Regiment in the Presidency of course accounting for the large number of Irish,

The total of Anglo Indians was 23,492 as compared with 26,023 ten years previously.

The definition of a City according to the Census is a place of 100,000 or more inhabitants, of these there are only three in the Presidency, but we give the population of the three Cities and two chief Towns.

Madras	526,911.
Madura	138,894.
Trichinopoly	120,422.
Calicut	82,334
Coimbatore	65,788

Of beggars, vagrants, witches and wizards there were 69,569 males and 463,000 females. Of the Todas who numbered 807 in 1901, 748 in 1911 there now remain only 640, a decrease in twenty years of 20.7 per cent.

Turning now to figures regarding Planting, it must be born in mind that the Census was taken on the 18th March, at a time when many estates are deplete of labour which has returned to their homes in the low country, where they seldom if ever describe themselves as plantation coolies but are included in the general heading of agricultural workers. The result is that until such time as labour becomes more permanent on estates official census will always under state the actual number of persons employed in planting industries.

This last Census reports that dependants on Estates for a living have increased from 37,379 in 1911 to 71,905 in 1921, that the actual number of men employed were 27,140 and of women 17,347.

We have taken out the following details from reports as to different Districts, which bear out, we think, the remarks we have made as to the unreliability of the returns as showing the real number of persons who earn their living by work on estates. Compared figures for the Shevaroy's where the greater part of the labour returns during slack times to the plains of Salem, and those for the Nilgiris where a large proportion of the labour are Budigas, resident on the hills and who at all times of the year would report themselves as estate employees.

The following figures are given,—

District	Number of persons actually employed		Dependents
	Men	Women	
Salem	293	126	365
Coimbatore	8,850	5,395	1,947
Malabar	3,609	1,468	4,177
Nilgiris	13,197	9,179	18,133

None of the Planting Districts, with exception of the Wynaad are sufficiently separated from the rest of their District for us to be



able to ascertain what the increase in population has been since the census of 1911, but the population of Wynaad on 18th March last was 84,771 or an increase of 2,222 in the last ten years

#### THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC OF 1918.

It will interest many Planters and their wives who went through the terrible experiences of 1918 to learn what the official report has to say as to what the actual loss of life was during the Influenza epidemic of that year.

The *increase* in the actual number of deaths was about 600,000 over the average of the preceding five years, which is the number quoted by the Sanitary Commissioner in his report for 1918 as a moderate estimate of the number of victims to Influenza in the second half of that year. The average death rate per thousand from fever for the Presidency for 1913-1917 was 7.4. In 1918 it was 22.4 or a percentage of 202.7 increase. Bellary and Anantapur were the Districts worst affected, in Bellary the actual increase in number of deaths from fever was 55,000 and in Anantapur 41,000.

In every District of the Presidency the disease proved more fatal to women than to men, and to persons in the prime of life (aged between 20 and 40) than to children or the aged. This loss has had the natural sequel of a fall in later years of the birth rate which in the five years preceding the outbreak averaged 32.3 per mile, but in 1919 fell to 25.5 and even in 1920 only reached 28.4.

### SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT, U. P. A. S. I.

#### *Selection of Parent Trees for Budding.*

In a former article it was mentioned that it would be possible to obtain sufficient material for budding 1000 acres from a single parent tree.

The manner in which this would be achieved is as follows :

With the two hundred or more buds, which is roughly the number obtainable directly from the original parent tree, bud on to nursery plants. As soon as these plants have reached a certain height branching should be artificially induced. Branches may be induced to form in a variety of ways, e. g., by leaf pruning or the making of deep incisions above the leaf axils. By the multiplication of branches, there will be produced on each of the nursery plants anything from fifty to a hundred buds, and possibly more, and from the whole nursery from 10,000 to 20,000 buds should be got. With plenty of attention in the shape of manuring and watering, most of the buds should be ready for peeling by the following grafting season. If now these buds are employed in grafting a second nursery in the same way, more than enough buds to graft a thousand acres will be obtained. A third season of such nursery propagation would lead to a fabulous

multiplication of buds, and it is easy to see that in the course of three or four years there could be obtained from a single tree, sufficient material to bud a whole presidency.

While it is possible to multiply bud bark supplies in this way, and plant up the entire estate indirectly from a single parent tree, it does not follow that this would be a desirable thing to do. One would perhaps be unwise in staking everything on the behaviour of a single tree. A further point which must be remembered is that propagation from a single parent means delay. Two years at least would be required before sufficient buds could be raised to graft any considerable area. An acre or so at most could be grafted from the material *directly* obtainable from one tree.

The foregoing explanatory note seemed to me to be called for, since, it is evident from correspondence received that some planters have read more than was intended into my original notes, and have, somehow or other, gained the impression that the selection of a mere handful of trees will yield enough buds for all their demands.

Given time, this, as we have seen, is perfectly true, but where early budding operations are contemplated, directly from selected mother trees, it will be necessary to have one parent tree to each budded acre.

It may be pointed out in conclusion that out of the good milkers on an estate only three or four per cent are anatomically of the high rank which would justify their employment for purposes of vegetative propagation. In order to find the twenty best bud mothers, therefore it will be necessary to select initially several hundred trees,

Estates may send in bark samples from any number of trees to the Mycologist Station for examination, and I would again urge the planters who are interested in this question to spare no effort in the search for their finest trees. The old adage which states that "anything which is worth doing at all, is worth doing well", is particularly applicable here.

Unless the bark samples can be handed in within twenty-four hours of their removal from the tree, experience shows that immersion in a preservative fluid such as 1% Acetic Acid or Formalin is desirable.

In addition to the clear numbering of sample, the points information is required upon when sending bark samples are :-

- (1) Age of tree ?
- (2) If renewed bark, age of renewal ?

Where fully renewed bark is not available at 3 feet, virgin bark from a slightly higher position should be chosen but in such cases the height from which sample is taken should be mentioned.

H. ASHPLANT,  
Rubber Mycologist.



## SHOT HOLE BORER.

### TREATMENT OF BURIED PRUNINGS.

"The treatment of buried prunings on shot hole borer infested estates" is the title of Bulletin No. 54 issued by the Department of Agriculture. The bulletin is by Mr. F. P. Jepson, M. A., Assistant Entomologist at Peradeniya.

The bulletin gives a mass of information relating to selection of site, the materials selected for trial, the arrangements of plots, the treatment of prunings, the examination of buried prunings and the effects of treatment.

The following is a summary of the investigations made:—

Owing to a more widespread adoption of the practice of burying prunings on tea estates, the Department of Agriculture was requested to extend the experiments commenced by Mr. Speyer with the object of discovering a method of treating the prunings on shot-hole borer estates at the time of burial in such a manner as to destroy the inmates of galleries and so prevent their subsequent emergence from beneath the ground. It was requested that special attention should be devoted to ascertaining the action of the commoner artificial fertilizers in this connection.

The experiments were accordingly commenced in January, 1921, at Sarnia Estate, Badulla, and extended over a period of sixty-four days, during which over 10,500 galleries were examined in detail.

The Normal behaviour of "*Xyleborus fornicatus*" in buried prunings during a period of sixty-four days succeeding burial has been ascertained. The percentage of galleries occupied falls from 91.7 per cent. at the time of burial to 18.5 per cent. in a period of nine weeks, and during the same period the number of adults per 100 galleries decreases from 123.6 to 58.3, the number of pupar from 24.9 to 4.1 larvae from 218.0 to 30.5 and eggs from 121.5 to 10.6. The finding of eggs and larvae in every examination up to the 64th day after burial is evidence that development proceeds below ground in the buried prunings, and the condition of many of the galleries indicated that the prunings were being entered beneath the ground by beetles which had themselves emerged from the buried prunings. The gradual decrease in the percentage of galleries occupied indicated however, that this is not the normal procedure. As the mortality is also small, it is concluded that the majority of beetles make their way to the surface of the soil, and so are capable of re-infesting tea of suitable condition for attack in the vicinity.

Although the experiments were primarily conducted to ascertain the insecticidal action of certain artificial manures a number of other substances were also tested including chemical salts insecticides of a simple nature, and several proprietary insecticides sent by their respective agents with the request that they should be tested.

No benefit by treatment with any artificial manure was indicated. The popular belief that basic slag, when buried with prunings, destroys a large number of gallery inmates was not, therefore, confirmed in these experiments. The results obtained with iron and copper sulphates were also negative. Of the simple insecticides tried phenol alone showed any result, but the benefit derived by treatment was not marked. The best results obtained in the experiments were in the case of two commercial insecticides, "Kerisol" and "Agrisol," the effects of treatment in these cases being conclusive. Unfortunately, however the cost of treatment is so high that their use, at the rates recommended by the makers is out of the question in connection with the treatment of prunings. In order to reduce the cost of treatment to an economic basis, these substances would require dilution to a degree at which efficiency would probably disappear, but if considered advisable, further trials can be conducted. A soil fumigant, "Apterite," gave satisfactory results, but the observations in this case are not considered as being reliable owing to the small number of galleries examined. It should be observed that the best results obtained were in the case of two liquid preparations, which would have a greater chance of penetrating the galleries and destroying the inmates by contact than solid preparations.

No progress has, therefore, been made towards finding a satisfactory method of treating prunings at the time of burial so as to destroy the various stages of Shot-hole Borer contained in the galleries and thus allow prunings to be safely buried wholesale. Although certain liquid preparations were found to be effective in their action, their cost is prohibitive, apart from the fact that the difficulties in connection with treating any large area with liquids are considerable. It is considered that the only satisfactory method of destroying the gallery inmates of buried prunings would be by means of soil fumigants, but those already on the market are too costly to allow of their use on a field scale in Ceylon.

In conclusion, it is considered that the method already advocated by the Department of Agriculture cannot at present be improved upon, and that all the leaves and small twigs should be lopped after pruning for burial and all heavier wood containing the galleries, burnt. No artificial treatment of prunings to enable them to be buried wholesale, as removed from the bush, can compete with this method from an economic point of view. An extended use of green manure trees should compensate for any loss caused by the burning of the heavier wood of prunings, and it is urged that this method be given a more extended trial.

*(Times of Ceylon).*



## U. P. A. S. I. STATISTICS SHIPMENT OF SOUTH INDIAN PRODUCE during NOVEMBER 1922.

From.	To other ports in India.	Ceylon.	United Kingdom.	Europe.	Asia.	Africa.	America.	Australia.
<b>TEA</b>								
Madras.	300	...	19,709	955	96	...	...	...
Calicut.	46,649	4,125	271,436	138,145	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	26,052	...	624,982	...	...	...	...	...
Tellicherry.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuticorin.	...	101,363	1,050,807	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey.	...	41,545	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	73,004	147,033	1,966,934	139,100	96	...	...	...
Previously.	203,324	1,278,430	14,731,652	8,380	1,958	32,065	766,259	403
Total Pounds since 1-4-22	276,328	1,425,463	16,698,586	147,480	2,054	32,065	766,259	403
<b>COFFEE</b>								
Madras.	309	...	...	...	15	...	...	...
Calicut.	...	...	...	392	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...
Mangalore.	135	...	...	19,280	215	...	...	...
Tellicherry.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay & C.	...	...	...	...	158	...	...	...
Totals.	444	1	...	19,672	388	16	...	...
Previously.	10,203	79	32,726	68,269	6,960	543	2,160	7,160
Total Since. 1-1-22.	148,621 cwts.	80	32,726	87,941	7,348	559	2,160	7,160
<b>RUBBER</b>								
Calicut.	...	57,308	14,735	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin.	43,825	...	407,111	...	...	...	134,400	...
Tuticorin.	...	189,195	3,360	...	...	...	...	...
Alleppey.	...	42,079	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	43,825	288,582	425,206	...	...	...	134,400	...
Previously.	795,272	984,412	1,834,639	121,236	...	...	903,267	...
Total since. 1-1-22	lbs. 5,530,839	1,272,994	2,259,845	121,236	...	...	1,037,667	...

RUBBER TRADE ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

Movements of all kinds of Rubber to and from the United Kingdom as per Board of Trade Returns for October 1922

FROM		IMPORTS			NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER		
		SEPTEMBER			1922	1921	1920
	Straits Settlements & F. M. S.	1922	1921	1920	28,682	39,948	43,066
	Ceylon and British India	2,543	2,719	5,445	9,457	14,864	19,540
	Dutch East Indies, etc.	1,129	1,281	2,089	5,877	12,698	8,737
	Brazil and Peru	383	745	617	2,097	1,596	7,054
	Other Countries	143	129	362	420	578	2,728
	<b>Total Tons</b>	85	22	567	46,533	69,684	88,125

To		EXPORTS			NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER		
		SEPTEMBER			1922	1921	1920
	United States of America	1922	1921	1920	16,345	11,876	24,751
	Canada	672	3,348	122	806	59	2,932
	France	109	22	305	9,535	4,606	10,846
	Belgium	1,025	958	591	901	794	1,922
	Italy	35	114	66	1,931	860	2,472
	Germany, Austria, Hungary	315	143	58	6,022	5,919	3,385
	Other Countries	379	705	332	3,567	2,691	2,786
	<b>Total Tons</b>	1,857	424	432	39,107	26,835	49,094

Landings Deliveries and Stocks in London and Liverpool as returned by the Warehouses and Wharves during the month of September

		LANDED DELIVERED			STOCKS 30TH SEPTEMBER		
		For Sept For Sept			1922	1921	1920
London	Plantation	4,123	5,258		70,853	71,813	34,991
	Other Grades	...	...		124	362	513
Liverpool	Plantation	230	250		7,522	8,225	2,170
	Para and Peru	170	148		207	1,220	614
Totals London and Liverpool	Other Grades...	...	2		418	457	443
		4,523	5,658		79,124	82,077	38,731



# The Planter's Chronicle.

Recognised as the Official Organ of the U. P. H. S. .I, Incorporated.

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Managing Editor, Mr. H. Waddington, Coimbatore.

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DECEMBER 30TH 1922.

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## PRICE OF "A" COFFEE

BY CABLE. LONDON 29TH DECEMBER 1922.

112s/- PER CWT. MARKET QUIET.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

A strong revival of the Tea trade of the port of Foochow is indicated in the export figures up to August. These show a total shipment of 2,352,000 lbs., as compared with 959,000 in the same period of 1921. Europe was the largest purchaser,

### *Foochow's Tea Trade.*

receiving 1,851,000 lbs. The trade with the United States was comparatively small, amounting to 72,618 lbs. although this represented a gain of 20,780 over the corresponding period of last year. England was the largest consumer for these teas, with the Netherlands coming second. Germany has re-entered the market and now ranks third in volume of purchase, with Australia and France following. In most demand are Congou and Souchong grades. Such kinds as Oolong Nysana have practically disappeared, and with the dormant state of Russian market, there has been no brick tea shipped at all.

The gutta-percha tree is now cultivated in Eastern Bolivia and it is hoped, there, that it will take the place of the rubber tree. A prominent firm of former producers of rubber has already extracted

### *Gutta-percha.*

some gutta-percha from trees planted by them. The last of the important rubber producers in the State suspended operations at the being of 1921.

From the Report for November of the Secretary to the Development Commissioner, Burmah, we note that an enterprising Burman has started manufacturing, in Rangoon, rubber balls, rubber heels for shoes and rubber soles for Burmese sandals, under the supervision of two Japanese experts.

*Rubber Goods Manufactures in the East.* The Director of Industries, Bengal reports that the rubber solutions manufactured by the India Rubber Works, 54 B. Lansdowne Road, Calcutta were examined by the Government Test House, Alipore and found satisfactory.

We note that our local contemporary *The People's Friend*, which we understand is published by the same firm as ourselves, in their issue of the 25th December was able to quote in extenso our article on "Railways in Southern India" although the *Planters' Chronicle* did not reach its subscribers till some time after their publication. We would recommend to the notice of Planters this new paper, the first, as far as we are aware to be published in English and the vernacular in the Coimbatore District, its subscription is only Rs. 6 per annum and its advertisements column in Tamil may prove of use in certain cases to planters, but like other concerns it cannot make good unless supported.

With reference to the article which appears elsewhere in this issue we understand that members of the *Potatoes.* Shevaroy Planters' Association have been asked to consider the proposition put forward by the Director of Agriculture. Are there not other planting Districts suitable for raising potatoes-the Anamalais?

Much more might be written on the subject of additional cost in transport of fertilisers caused by delays in transit by railways than is said in the editorial we quote from the "Indian Scientific Agriculturist" on another page. Cases *Railway Rates on Fertilisers.* are constantly occurring in planting Districts, where owing to delay in delivery, crop carts have to go up empty and special carts, at increased rates of hire, have to be engaged to take up manures.

The U. P. A. S. I. and the I. T. A. are now much engaged on the questions of assessment of value of rent free quarters to Income Tax and we had thought that this was a completely new matter of interest to planters, but happening on the Proceeding of the Wynaad Planters' Association Meeting of 11th December 1860 we read that Mr. T. B. Bassano brought up the question as to whether houses on plantations occupied by Agents or resident managers were liable to Income Tax.

We would particularly call attention of planters to the paragraph on another page of this number with reference to making returns called for in respect to Coffee Estates, as our Editorial Note in last weeks issue might be taken to mean more than was intended.

*Income Tax on Coffee Estates*



## HEVEA BRASILIENSIS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

Elsewhere we have a note as to the abandonment of the cultivation of rubber in Bolivia. From an article by Mons. V. Cayla in "L' Agronomia Coloniale", as reviewed by the "International Review of Science", we learn that the author in 1912 observed that the leaves of some young specimens of *Hevea Brasiliensis* growing in the experimental field at Belem de Para (Brazil), had been attacked by a cryptogamic disease. This was attributed by Griffon and Maublanc to the Ascomycete *Dothidella Ulei*.

By means of later researches made, not only at Para, but also in British Guiana and Surinam this disease was proved to be of very common occurrence in South America, and all the details of the complete life circle of the parasitic fungus was discovered.

A scientific expedition made by the author in 1920 in Dutch Guiana confirmed the apprehensions already entertained as to the serious nature of the disease. The Plantations of *H. brasiliensis* that had been made in this colony are now abandoned and most of the trees have been felled, solely on account of the attacks of '*Dothidella Ulei*'. Even in the case of trees old enough for tapping, the leaves were so severely injured, the laminae being riddled with holes, that they were no longer able to discharge their functions. The trees are in a wretched condition and even if they do not die, are reduced to such pitiable physiological state as to be unable to produce more than very small quantities of latex of no economic value. The rapidity with which the disease spreads varies according the growth conditions and is greatest where the soil is damp and insufficiently drained. Badly attacked trees are however also found growing on healthy well drained soils, on the highest dykes of the polders, and even on estates at a fair altitude.

The cultivation of *Hevea brasiliensis* has now been completely given up in Surinam.

From the information collected by the author in British Guiana it is easy to foretell that the same fate, due to the same cause, is awaiting the rubber plantations in that colony, for in 1919 the acreage under *Hevea* had decreased to half what it had been a few years before.

*Dothidella Ulei* is the pest threatening any *Hevea* plantations that may possibly be established in Brazil in the future, and as the only economic solution of the problem of obtaining Brazilian Rubber consists in growing *Hevea* on the banks of the Amazon, the necessary prophylactic measures must be adopted in making new plantations.

## FERTILISER FREIGHT RATES.

While the question of railway rates is one of the greatest importance to the general progress of the country, it has a vital bearing upon the welfare of the fertiliser industry. It should be understood that fertilisers are, as a whole, low-priced commodities and are sold at a very narrow margin of profit; consequently, they will not bear high import of railway rates which may ultimately form a very important proportion of the retail price.

In Europe and America, not only is the fertiliser industry encouraged, but farmers are also encouraged to use fertilisers by a low scale of railway freight charges on these substances. The railway companies do not, of course, do this through any philanthropic motives, but simply because they know that they will later on, have an increase in the traffic through the larger quantities of produce resulting from the use of fertilisers.

At first glance it may seem a revolutionary idea, but we assert that it would be a sound policy for the Indian Railway companies to actually carry all fertilisers free of charge ! Statistics show that the yield per acre of Indian crops is smaller than that of almost any agricultural country in the world. At the same time, it has been demonstrated beyond any possibility of doubt, that the proper use of fertilisers considerably increases the yield of these crops. When the truth of this is accepted, it must be obvious that if fertilisers can be distributed to cultivators at low rates, unburdened by heavy freight rates, the crop will be increased, and the railways, in handling larger quantities of produce for export, and of the imported goods which the wealthier cultivators will then be able to buy, will be richly compensated for having carried fertilisers for little profit, or even at a loss. In India these crops have to be moved by rail. In some other countries a proportion of the crops may be moved by other means, such as inland water ways, canals and road transport, but in India practically all produce has to be handled by railways.

The high railway freight charges on fertilisers is a most serious obstacle to their being extensively used ; in fact the large majority of Indian cultivators, who are mostly men with little or no capital, are quite unable to find the money to purchase fertilisers, even when they are sufficiently advanced in their ideas to know that their crops would be largely increased by their use. Even in Great Britain, where special low rates of carriage have long been in force, an agitation is now being carried on for further reductions in those rates. The Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association has for some time been pressing its views upon railway companies and has availed itself of every opportunity of calling attention to the crying need of the trade for a substantial measure of relief. The Association has taken action not only in regard to the general question but in regard to such detailed questions as the charges enforced for various classes of traffic, dock dues, wharf dues, etc. It has recently sought the aid of the dock authorities in bringing about a general reduction in transport and handling charges, a reduction which is vital if the trade of the country in fertilisers is to recover.



How much greater, then, is the crying need for reduction in freight rates of fertilisers in India, where exorbitant charges are the rule? Not only this, but frequently there are long delays in transit also. The result is that the cultivator who desires to try for himself the effect of fertilisers on his crops finds that the fertiliser costs him, in many cases, almost double its original price, and not only that but probably arrives too late to be of much benefit to his crops. Thus is the fertiliser industry in this country being strangled in its infancy, agriculture remains in a stagnant and unprogressive condition, and the produce of the country amounts to a mere fraction of what it should be.

In this connection some remarks made by the Chairman of the Anglo-South American Bank, are worthy of notice;—"The point I desire to make is that the import of one cargo of Chilean Nitrate to Britain would result in an increased output of food stuffs equivalent to many cargoes of such products which at present have to be obtained from abroad. The matter I think is one of great practical interest from several points of view-labour, social and economic-and I commend it especially to the very serious attention of all engaged in the agricultural industry of this country".

*(The Indian Scientific Agriculturalist).*

## POTATOES IN PLANTING DISTRICTS.

The Government of Madras are anxious to extend the cultivation of potatoes in Southern India on the lines which are now being adopted at the Government Potato Farm at Nanjanad in the Nilgiris. The Director of Agriculture has suggested that as funds are not available, at present, to establish another farm, something might be done to develop seed farms as is done in the case of Cotton and Paddy.

The object is to obtain, as quickly as possible, large quantities of seed of good varieties, tested by the Department and known to be useful for further distribution.

To attain this object it is proposed to make arrangements with likely individuals to take a certain quantity of seed, which would be supplied free of cost, and to grow it under instructions and advice of the Agricultural Department, Madras. In return they would have to agree to sell the Department the whole of the resulting crop, at local market rates. The Department would then re-distribute this stock of seed by sale, or otherwise, to those desirous of having it.

The advantage accruing to the individuals, who take up such Seed Farms would be that they would obtain their original seed for nothing and be assured of selling the crop at market rates without cost of marketing and transport. The Department would get large quantities of seed which they could not raise otherwise,

## MALAYALAM PLANTATIONS, LIMITED.

Messrs Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd. Secretaries of the Malayalam Plantations, Ltd., in a circular to the shareholders of that company, state that the Directors have taken advantage of the improved condition of the tea market recently to sell forward one half of the balance of the current years tea crop for 1923 at very good prices. The directors estimated that the accounts for the current financial year of the company, ending at 31st March next, would show a substantial profit. At the Annual Meeting of the shareholders held in September last, the Chairman referred to the loan of £ 50,000 secured upon mortgage of the Company's estates, the repayment of which owing to the continued depression of the rubber market, had been deferred. The rate of interest payable on this loan was high, and the directors had, therefore, decided that the company should take advantage of its improved prospects to raise further capital to enable this loan to be repaid and to strengthen further the company's financial position. The directors offered 77,700 shares for subscription, in the proportion as nearly as possible of one new share for every ten shares now held. Fractions of shares would be ignored. The new shares would be issued at par and were payable in full upon application. The shares of the present issue would rank with the existing shares of the company for any dividend which may be declared for the current year, ending 31st March next, and in all other respects. The issue had been underwritten in equal amounts by Messrs Harrisons & Crosfield, Ltd. and the Rubber Plantations Trust, Ltd., in consideration only of an option to subscribe for 20,000 shares at par at any time prior to 31st December 1924.

(The India-Rubber Journal 2nd December 1922).

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## INCOME TAX ON COFFEE ESTATES.

With reference to the note which appeared in issue of last week, I would explain that it was not intended that planters should refuse to make any return called for by the Income Tax Authorities, but simply, if possible, to postpone doing so until the U. P. A. S. I. can advise further on the matter. If returns are demanded by a certain date, they should be rendered, as otherwise the person called upon renders himself liable to a penalty of Rs. 10 per diem until such returns are made, and in event of returns not being received the Income Tax Officer, concerned, has the power of fixing the assessment at such rate as he may consider advisable, against which decision there is later, I understand, no appeal.

H. WADDINGTON,  
*Secretary. U. P. A. S. I.*



## HELOPELTIS.

*Extract from the Report of the Deputy Director of Agriculture,  
Madras for November 1922.*

Arrangements were made with several planters to carry out manurial experiments against Helopeltis. From experiment done at Tocklai, it is seen that Potash, when applied directly to the tea bush makes it disagreeable to the bug in a comparatively short period, but the effect of applications of Potash manures varied with conditions.

In Assam it has been possible to group together a large number of analyses of soil from gardens, which though on widely different types of soils, fall into three classes, viz :—

- (1) Those which remain free from Mosquito Blight,
- (2) Those which get it badly at times and remain crop free a other times; and
- (3) Those which are always badly attacked.

Their contents of Total and available Potash and Phosphoric acid are:—

Type.	Total.		Available.		Percentage of	
	Potash.	Phos. acid.	Potash.	Phos. acid.	Avail Pota.	Avail Phos. Acid
1	'440%	'168%	'020%	'010%	4%	6%
2	'188 „	'056 „	'003 „	'00 „	1 „	5 „
3	'499 „	'115 „	'010 „	'029 „	3 „	25 „

It is pointed out that in the blighted gardens there is a low ratio of available Potash or available Phos. Acid together with a high percentage availability of Phosphoric Acid.

A calculation of the average of these from analyses of 28 Travancore tea estate soils gives the following results.

Total Potash.	Total Phos.	Available Potash.	Available Phos. Acid.	Percentage of potash.	Percentage of Phos.	Ratio Acid.
'3777%	'1075%	'0174%	'005%	4.5%	4.6%	3.48

The ratio Available Potash (Available Phos. Acid.) is comparatively high and the percentage availability of Potash to Phosphoric acid is 1 : 1 so that on the whole these figures compare favourably with Type 1 of the Assam soils.

A definite example of the estate suffering from Helopeltis shows the ratio Available Potash (Available Phos. Acid) to be 3, the percentage availability of Phosphoric Acid to be 4, and the percentage availability of Potash to be 3.

Yet on this estate it has been calculated that up to 25 per cent of the crop is lost annually through Helopeltis. This goes to show that if there is any connection between the above ratios and the appearance of the Helopeltis in South India, as seems to be the case in Assam, they must be different meanwhile until the results of the experiments laid out already have been obtained, attention should be given to good all round cultivation. A useful article on this subject by Mr. E. Ballard appeared in the *Planters Chronicle* of 1921.

## COFFEE IN INDIA, 1921-22.

The coffee industry of India is practically confined to Southern India, comprising the Madras Presidency, Coorg, and the States of Mysore, Travancore, and Cochin. The statistics dealt with in this publication are based on data furnished by coffee planters, which have been received in this Department through the Director of Industries, Madras, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Coorg, and the Mysore Durbar. They are incomplete inasmuch as estates of plantations of an area smaller than 10 acres do not furnish returns and are therefore excluded from these tables.

The number of reporting plantations in the year under review was 2,964, covering an area of 2,16,746 acres, as against 2,942 with an area of 2,23,524 acres reported a year ago. New land planted with coffee in these plantations during the year amounted to 6,981 acres, while the area of old cultivation abandoned was 5,277 acres. This represents a net increase of 1,704 acres over the revised total area (1,25,569 acres) under coffee for 1920—21. The total reported area under cultivation in the year 1921—22 was, therefore, 1,27,273 acres, or an increase of 1 per cent over that of the preceding year. Of this total area, Mysore accounted for 50 per cent, Coorg 25 per cent, Madras 22 per cent, and Cochin and Travancore together 3 per cent.

The total reported production of cured coffee during the year was 20,645,742 lbs., as compared with 22,486,696 lbs., in the preceding year—the yield per acre of plucked area being 202 lbs. (210 lbs.) in Madras, 132 lbs. (235 lbs.) in Coorg, 179 lbs., (189 lbs.) in Mysore, 128 lbs. (132 lbs.) in Cochin, and 117 lbs. (246 lbs.) in Travancore. (The figures for 1920—21 are shown in brackets).

The daily average number of persons employed in the plantations during 1921-22 was returned at 69,191, of whom 42,036 were permanently employed (namely, garden labour 26,209 and outside labour 15,827) and 27,155 (temporarily employed (outside labour), as compared with 74,945 persons (32,598 garden and 17,736 outside labour permanently employed and 24,611 temporary outside labour) in 1920-21.

The figures of imports and exports of coffee into and from British India during the past four official year, 1918-19 to 1921-22, and the six months, April to September, 1921 and 1922, are shown in tables No. 4 and 5.

Coffee is imported chiefly from the Straits Settlements and Ceylon, and re-exported to Asiatic Turkey, Maskat Territory, and the Bahrein Islands.

Export of Indian coffee increased in 1921-22, as compared with the proceeding year, by 1,600 cwts. to 235,000 cwts. The principal customers of Indian coffee are France and the United Kingdom; the former increased her demands by 94 per cent to 80,900 cwts., while



the latter reduced her requirements by 14,400 cwts. to 85,300 cwts. With the exception of Australia including New Zealand, which took 1,500 cwts. more than in the preceding year, the exports to other principal importing countries decreased. Exports to Asiatic Turkey declined by 25,500 cwts. and amounted to 5,500 cwts. Arabia, Bahrein Islands and Ceylon also reduced their takings considerably. In the six months, April to September, 1922, the exports decreased to 77,600 cwts. as compared with 145,800 cwts. in the corresponding period of the previous year. All the principal importing countries took smaller quantities, the most noticeable decreases being in France, the united Kingdom, Arabia, and the Bahrein Islands.

D. N. GHOSH,  
*Offg. Director of Statistics.*

The following is a summary of the figures given:—

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF COFFEE 1921-1922.

District.	Number of Estates.	Acres.	Persons employed	Quantity cur- ed Coffee Cwts.	
Agency District	...	3	278	124	167
Madura	...	144	6,396	2,703	8,790
Tinnevelly	...	7	420	30	58
Coimbatore	...	11	3,070	1,423	4,113
Nilgiris	...	68	8,976	4,354	17,490
Salem	...	54	6,349	3,497	12,637
South Kanara	...	1	11	8	8
Malabar	...	26	2,456	1,141	3,717
Coorg	...	714	31,885	17,795	47,000
Mysore	...	3	378	109	751
Hassan	...	926	18,004	11,628	16,070
Shimoga	...	50	151	35	140
Kadur	...	933	45,712	24,938	68,197
Travancore	...	13	960	802	906
Cochin	...	11	2,227	604	2,462
TOTALS ...	2,264	127,273	69,191	182,506	

*Editorial Note.*— A total Production of 9,125 tons of Plantation Coffee. We are told Estates of an area smaller than 10 acres are excluded from these tables, but from above it would seem the average estate in the Shimoga District is only just three acres, and there can be little doubt that other districts in Mysore have included returns from gardens not extending to ten acres in extent. It is very doubtful if the figures given as number of employees is any more reliable than those quoted last week under our article on the recent Census and until planters can be induced to make full and correct returns the importance of the planting Industry, as an employer of Labour, will never be realized.

## LATEST ESTIMATE OF THE BRAZILIAN COFFEE CROP

CONSUL HERNDON W. GOFORTH, Santos.

The coffee trees of the 1923-24 crop are said to be in excellent condition, and the largest crop since the harvest of 1915, or possibly that of 1906, is confidently expected. The storm in the Mogyana coffee district of the State of Sao Paulo in August did considerable damage to the coffee crop now being harvested, and many of the early blossoms of the 1923-24 crop were blown or knocked from the trees. Exporters at Santos have not been alarmed, however, since such storms are not unusual at this time of the year, and any damage to the crop is ordinarily confined to a very limited area.

It is yet too early to form a definite opinion as to whether the minimum of approximately 7,000,000 bags (132 pounds each) or the maximum of a little over 8,000,000 bags of all coffees available for export from Santos during the year ending June 30, 1923, will prove to be the more nearly correct. The territory from which Santos draws its supply of export coffee is comprised primarily of the States of Sao Paulo, which usually furnishes more than 90 per cent, of the total; of the southern part of the State of Minas Geraes, which furnishes less than 1 per cent.

An estimate of the 1922-23 coffee crop, prepared by the Sao Paulo State department of agriculture, gives the following results of investigations made by that department.

				Number of bags.
Total of Sao Paulo	...	...	...	7,140,000
Coffee of Southern Minas	...	...	...	795,000
Coffee of Paraná	...	...	...	55,000
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	7,990,000
				<hr/>

With the following discounts:

Coffee seeking the Rio market	...	50,000	
Consumption of the capital (Sao Paulo)	...	150,000	
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	200,000
			<hr/>
Probable entry at Santos	...	...	7,790,000
			<hr/>

Arrivals at Santos of the 1922-23 crop are now approximately up to the maximum allowed. Entries at Santos for the present crop have been fixed as follows; From the interior of the State of Sao Paulo to Santos, 28,000 bags; from the city of Sao Paulo to Santos, 2,000 bags, making a total of 30,000 bags. Arrivals at the city of Sao Paulo are limited to 3,000 bags daily, 2,000 of which are usually



forwarded to Santos and the remaining 1,000 enters into local consumption or is stored until shipments fall below the maximum during the last quarter of the crop year, July 1 to June 30. Stocks in the interior, held over by the planters from 1921-22 crop, are said to have been almost wholly exhausted before August 1, 1922. Planters were so eager to avail themselves of the good milreis prices prevailing that they failed to reserve enough coffee for consumption in their own districts, and, in the cases of two municipalities at least, coffee was reshipped to them from the city of Sao Paulo.—*United States Commerce Reports*, October 30, 1922.

### WYNAAD PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Meppadi Club  
on 13th December 1922.*

PRESENT:—Messrs. B. M. Behr (Chairman) W. G. Craig, B. Malcolm, H. J. C. Hammond, T. P. Gauld, W. M. Mackay, E. E. Eyre, B. J. Blackett, H. C. Davies, T. B. Orchard, R. P. N. Swayne, J. A. Gwynne, B. D. Darkin, J. H. B. Sullivan, H. R. Bowling, Major C. H. Brock (Hon. Member) and R. W. M. Hay (Hon. Secretary).

The Proceedings of the last Meeting were confirmed.

**RATES OF PAY FOR LOCAL LABOUR.** This matter was discussed and it was resolved that the proposals brought forward should be circulated and brought up at the next meeting.

**RATES OF RICE ISSUE TO MANGALORES.** The following Committee were appointed to consider the rates of Rice issue and other allowances to Mangalore coolies;—Messrs B. Malcolm, J. E. Bisset, B. M. Behr, T. B. Orchard and E. E. Eyre.

**OLYMPIC INTER-DISTRICT TENNIS.** The suggestion of the Executive Committee that there should be an Annual Tennis Tournament at Bangalore in March was discussed. Many members were of opinion that the scheme would be too costly and that the Association would not be able to afford to send a team. The suggestion was finally accepted by a small majority.

**LABOUR DEPARTMENT U. P. A. S. I.** Major Brock addressed the Meeting and answered various questions about the Labour Department.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Major Brock which was unanimously responded to.

**CORRESPONDENCE. CATTLE POUNDS.** The letter from the Revenue Divisional Officer on this subject was recorded informing members that they might erect pounds near their estates, and those intending to do so were asked to notify the Honorary Secretary.

**MOSQUITO BLIGHT.** A letter from the Government Entomologist requesting information regarding the amount of Mosquito Blight at present in Wynaad was read,

GOVERNMENT SURVEY. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Collector with reference to the demand, lately made, for heavy payments on account of the re-settlement Survey now in progress and to ask for further particulars.

MANANTODY-TELLICHERRY ROAD. Resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the President of the District Board asking what steps are being taken to put this road into proper repair ; pointing out that as it is at present it is unfit for ordinary cart traffic.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

B. M. BEHR,  
Chairman.

R. W. M. HAY,  
Hon. Secretary.

## MARKET REPORT

MESSRS. LESLIE AND ANDERSON WRITE TO US UNDER DATE THE  
30TH ULTO. AS FOLLOWS :—

*Coffee.*—Supplies at Auctions continue moderate, chiefly Central American and Nairobi Coffees. Fine quality Bold, of the latter, have been sold up to 120 per cwt. to Home Trade Buyers, which augurs well for the demand for really good coffee. Good Columbians have sold in Auctions this week at an average price, for the usual assortment of about 85 per cwt. landed terms. There has been a little enquiry for last seasons's withdrawn lots of East Indian Coffee.

There are many buyers here for Mysore or Coorg Plantation, usual assortinent, on the basis of 90 per cwt. less 1 per cent CFI. Terms, but none of our friends on this side are yet prepared to sell at the price.

*Cardamoms.*—The market is now bare of fine quality, cured Cardamoms and we still look for a good market for these when you can forward them.

We think it would be desirable to grade these Mangalore type into two classes. "Bold" and "Smalls", for it is not easy for us to call "Geese" "Swans" when we are holding out for fancy prices, with sometimes a percentage of "Ducks", in the parcel.

*Tea.*—Offerings for the week at Auctions were on a larger scale, catalogues totalling 45,834 packages Indians. Sales passed with a strong competition for all descriptions, bidding being general and well distributed. Finest kinds were in request, several parcels of "Tippy" and "Assams" being disposed of at satisfactory prices. Medium Teas were freely competed for at last weeks level of values, and occasionally improved on, whilst common and lower medium sorts showed a strong enquiry, with quotations often showing an occasional advance.















